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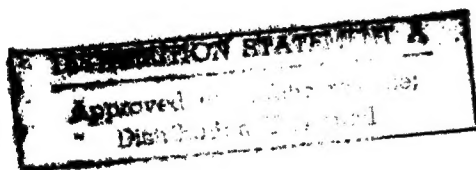
JPRS-UMA-85-014

25 February 1985

USSR Report

MILITARY AFFAIRS

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25 February 1985

USSR REPORT

MILITARY AFFAIRS

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MILITARY-POLITICAL ISSUES

PARTY ORGANIZER SEEKS TO IMPROVE FLIGHT SAFETY

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 18, Sep 84 pp 50-54

[Article by Lt Col I. Sobolev, combat aviator-sniper: "Flight-Safety Regulations are Inviolable"]

[Text] On this day, the roar of jet fighters taking off rolled slowly over the airfield. Our air regiment was conducting flights in close sequence, when suddenly, there was a disturbance in the orderly pattern. This is what had happened: Senior Lieutenant S. Seleznev had taken off without employing his flaps. As a result, the reduced wing surface area of his fighter caused a dangerous extension of his take-off run on the TOL runway. Fortunately, everything turned out all right. But the situation could have led to an air disaster. An investigation of the causes was called for immediately.

Initially, the flight-safety engineers and technicians sought the cause in equipment malfunction. But Seleznev, to his credit, freely acknowledged that the fault was his own--he had "forgotten" to engage the flaps.

It appeared that the entire matter had been resolved. Now, all that remained was to instill some responsibility in the airman and subject him to additional flight training. And this was in fact done. The unit commander sternly warned the errant officer about the need for more careful preparation in carrying out his combat training missions. In his role as instructor, he arranged for training sessions and controlled flights for Seleznev. In brief, no small amount of work was done with the pilot. But then I thought to myself: does that cover everything? Granted, the guilty party in this potentially disastrous situation had been identified, and specific measures had been taken with regard to him. But, in fact, this forerunner of disaster had actually revealed a kind of weak link in the entire system of providing for flight safety within the regiment.

As party secretary with responsibility for regiment regulations, I, quite frankly, did not find the time, due to the press of other matters, to share my thoughts with the officer-party members. However, the Seleznev incident was successfully resolved, and the whole affair sort of quieted down.

But the disturbing thoughts I had wrestled with before, returned inevitably. Not much later, Sr Lt V. Romasev provided the setting for a potential air disaster. While engaged in intercepting an "enemy" aircraft, he deviated from his assigned

flight level, that is, he assumed an altitude which could have been occupied by another aircraft.

Two potentially disastrous situations... And both brought about by pilots with the same number of hours in the air, and caused by the same type of pilot error--deviation from proper procedure, inattentiveness and, to a certain extent, carelessness.

The need to examine the causes underlying these pilot errors had already become quite apparent--and that it should be done down to the finest detail. All were in agreement that it was essential to carefully analyze the entire formal training process in the regiment, and to uncover the weakened link.

It is well established that flight safety is critically dependent on the extent to which airborne personnel are thoroughly familiar with their aircraft, piloting techniques, and appropriate guidelines and instructions. Thus, it was with an examination of this essential knowledge that we began our work.

It came to light that some airmen were manifesting a reduced sense of responsibility for their theoretical and practical training, and, as a result, gaps were showing up in their knowledge.

As a direct follow-up to the investigation, the regiment conducted an official conference, a session of the methods council, and a party meeting of the unit administration. The highlight of the meeting was a discussion of the need to increase the accountability of party members for ensuring flight safety.

Such strict accountability must be backed up, of course, by specific preventative efforts. In fact, it is quite clear that before requirements can be imposed, every airman, engineer, technician and mechanic must be apprised of the essential aspects of the elevated criteria for evaluating their performances, and they must be infused with a heightened sense of responsibility for strict adherence to flight regulations and flawless execution of their professional obligations. And, as was emphasized at the meeting, this can be realized with the coordination of organizational and educational efforts aimed at preventing potentially disastrous situations in flight.

Joining forces, the regiment commander, staff and administrative officers, political organizers, and all party members worked to draw up and implement specific measures designed to eliminate human errors. Hearings of accounts and reports by party members at party bureau sessions, as well as talks with party-supervisory staff became more closely tied in with specific daily assignments. Commanders increased their control over methodological applications, the content of seminars, and group activities in the classroom. For their part, political organizers and party activists are continuing to work toward sustaining and developing initiative and creativity in training supervisors.

The regiment commander, for example, has approved a suggestion made by CPSU member Lt Col N. Orlenko that group classroom activities be emphasized over lectures in pilot training. Of course, questions do arise which cannot be adequately dealt with without the use of lectures. But, as practical applications demonstrate, there is more benefit to be derived from seminars and the sharing of

experience. The training plan has undergone a review. We are now providing instruction in many subjects in the form of lively discussions and dialogues between young aviators and experienced flyers and engineers. Incidentally, Lt Col Orlenko, as well as other supervisory party members, are reinforcing their own initiatives in the area of flight safety improvements through practical action.

Nonetheless, there are some aviators who are not as yet showing the same sort of enthusiasm and effort in this regard. Here is a case in point. While Sr Lt G. Gadzhiyev has been rapidly upgrading his study skills, Sr Lt S. Stepanov has been proceeding in the opposite direction. And, generally speaking, inadequate knowledge and experience leads to mistakes on the job, and provides the setting for aviation disasters.

The resolution drafted at the party meeting mentioned above mandates that we institute measures which bring public pressure to bear on those who display an uncritical attitude toward their training and do not improve their knowledge of standard regulations on airborne accident prevention. In accordance with the party line, we have, of course, held accountable those to blame for in-flight accidents, and officer Stepanov for failing to display the proper zeal in his training.

The exacting party requirements supplement professional requirements. The commander has officially grounded Sr Lt Romasev. This circumstance is probably the harshest form of punishment for a flyer. We were convinced, however, that it was both timely and useful. But, in order to spare the grounded pilot from feeling professionally stigmatized and demoralized as a result of his grounding, party organizers carefully explained to him the need for and the importance of these measures. As experienced party leaders, combat aviator-sniper Lt Col M. Ivanov and combat aviator 1st class Lt Col N. Orlenko were given an important mission by the party: to discuss with the officer the role of in-depth knowledge of flight theory in upgrading combat skills and assuring flight safety.

Direct monitoring devices are a tremendous aid to us in the timely detection of pilot error in flight, as well as in taking immediate steps to see that it is not repeated in the future. Using automatic systems for recording flight parameters, it is possible to evaluate the precision of a pilot's maneuvers, his professional skill level, and the condition of his combat hardware. This is why we resolved in the meeting to give greater attention to the group of technical specialists who service these systems.

We found no major faults among the aviators. This group is headed by a conscientious and hard-working officer, Capt V. Zakharov. Nevertheless, potential areas for more efficient utilization of direct control devices were uncovered. We have therefore directed Zakharov and his subordinates to increase and expand their specialized knowledge. Specialists within the group have introduced a number of improvements designed to speed up the processing of materials in the direct monitoring system. These will allow more rapid and precise analyzation of parameters. It has become a standing rule that immediately after carrying out a combat training mission, the pilot and his commander shall carefully study the results obtained from direct monitoring.

It goes without saying that flight safety depends in large measure on the condition of the aircraft. We are absolutely correct in speaking of the high reliability of modern supersonic fighters, and it is quite natural that we strive to attend to the tiniest details in pre-flight maintenance checks of aircraft systems. And yet, here in educating people, this kind of extreme attention to detail is unfortunately sometimes missing.

Moreover, in working with people, party organizers run into many problems. I offer a case in point. During training exercises, Capt V. Boyko, a combat control officer, was vectoring a fighter to its target. The "enemy" plane maneuvered sharply, attempting to evade the missile launch of the interceptor. Boyko transmitted instructions to the fighter continuously: "correct course", "increase speed" and so forth. And in the heat of "battle", he allowed two aircraft to come so close to each other that the situation bordered on a potential air disaster. It was fortunate that the chief of the command center intervened in the vectoring process in time to avert such a disaster.

How could this intolerably close approach of two aircraft have occurred? There are absolutely no grounds for impugning the conscientiousness or the ground-control experience of Capt Boyko. He is one of the most capable and highly disciplined specialists... A member of the party bureau, Lt Col I. Lushnik, was assigned the job of determining the cause of the erroneous actions taken by the combat control officer. After making a careful study of Capt Boyko's on-the-job style, the organizer noted that he committed the error as a result of the peculiarities of his own temperament. Boyko was by nature a highly active and excitable individual. In the process of vectoring the fighter to the target, he succumbed to excessive haste.

It is understandable that our subsequent work with this officer was of an educational nature. Party members on staff tactfully explained to Boyko how his personality problem had interfered with his successfully accomplishing the difficult tasks involved in vectoring fighters. After conferring with psychologists who specialize in this area, we recommended to him methods for learning self-control, and we stressed the development of coolness and restraint in the process of controlling air warfare. This consequently assured proper performance by Capt Boyko, and helped him to do his job without violating flight safety regulations.

I am firmly convinced that flight safety resides primarily within the individual whose job it is to provide it. The specific individual--with his individualized nature, feelings, moods and many other peculiarities which we at times mistakenly view as "trivialities".

In the process of turning out highly trained, crack aviators, there is probably a significant role for the area of psychological orientation provided by the regimental methods council. I say "probably" because, in my view, there are still unresolved problems in the work of this specific area. No, the people working in this area do a more than adequate job of studying problems of moral and psychological tempering of aviators, as well as their readiness to act with skill and confidence under any conditions. They provide a good many timely and valuable recommendations for improving quality in the training and education of

pilots and other airborne personnel. Nonetheless, contradictory elements have inevitably entered into the execution of these recommendations. Why?

One may say, of course, that training conditions cannot easily approximate those encountered during actual combat. Clearly, the contradiction between the real and the hypothetical has existed in the past and continues to exist today. But, we are concerned here with how to most accurately and efficiently resolve that contradiction, and we are not, in every case, giving the proper amount of thought to the matter. It is particularly important that all supervisors not only master the methodology of training subordinates, but also become effective educational psychologists--skillfully and tactfully probing the complex feelings of the flight students. A good example of this is the technique employed by Lt Col M. Ivanov. He conducts his training sessions in a specially equipped setting, striving for maximal response from his students. He conceives and develops tactical problems related to flight safety regulations and actions to be taken in extraordinary in-flight situations. In their training, the airmen are subjected to stressful situations which are close to those they will experience in carrying out demanding assignments in the air. The result is the elimination of in-flight errors. The party buro has advised member-organizers working in this area to stress wider application of the advanced techniques being developed by such outstanding educators.

Education as it relates to flight safety... It is particularly important here to consider every detail--even the smallest. Regimental command and the party hierarchy are constantly striving to manifest their concern for their people, as well as for the conditions under which they live and perform their military duties. We are making an effort to more completely satisfy the spiritual needs and interests of aviators, and to create for them a pleasant psychonomic environment--an atmosphere which would be totally incompatible with any appearance of carelessness or deviation from flight safety regulations.

I shall cite examples of what is being done along party lines in this area. At one point, it was revealed that personnel under Maj A. Lisnichuk were at times not doing everything they could to ensure reliable operation of their aviation equipment under poor weather conditions. Buro members investigated the reasons for this, and advised the party member in charge on how best to organize the work of these specialists and impart technical knowledge to them.

Lisnichuk heeded the advice, and went to work with a vengeance. It wasn't long before his maintenance personnel began to service the equipment with greater confidence, thereby increasing its reliability, which is, of course, absolutely essential in providing for flight safety.

It is no secret that when a pilot is physically fit, with a high level of endurance, he is better able to hold up under increasing work loads in the air; he displays quicker, more precise reactions under the difficult conditions imposed by combat training missions. The same is true of maintenance technicians, who show increased stamina and proficiency in servicing the fighter aircraft, and can more rapidly install the armament systems. At the same time, not everything has gone quite smoothly in the pursuit of physical fitness for military personnel: some airmen have put on excessive weight, and several aviators have complained

of being overly tired at the end of the work day. To be sure, isn't it possible that, in the final analysis, all of this has an effect on flight safety? Of course.

We invited the head of physical training and sports, party member A. Zhovtonog, to come to the buro. We asked him to explain his attitude toward his assigned duties, and we pointed out specific sore points to him. He gave thought to the criticism, and arrived at the essential conclusions. The physical training and competitive sports programs are now conducted on a much more active basis. The aviators have the use of a well-equipped gymnasium and a swimming pool. Personnel have become better trained, and we are less often finding ourselves upset that someone is not bearing up under increasing physical demands, and less often detecting sluggish reactions under difficult conditions.

An uncompromising and exacting attitude with regard to the observance of flight rules and regulations will provide the desired effect, as long as it is manifested steadily, and in all areas. And, we need to forthrightly recognize that we have not as yet totally rid ourselves of nonsystematic approaches. We make in-depth studies of the causes of potentially disastrous in-flight situations only after they have already occurred.

This kind of situation also serves to point out that there are no details too minor in the effort to achieve flight safety. Not long ago, two officers, relying too heavily on their knowledge and considerable experience, violated one of the most important strictures imposed on pilots--to maintain the most rigid discipline while in the air. It was their guilt which was the principle factor in the matter. But, there is no way to shift the responsibility for what happened away from regimental command or the party activ, and, for that matter, the entire party membership. The reason is that we have not demanded the proper ex-actitude from these comrades. In the future, we must develop a more critical attitude toward our work on flight safety improvements. We must not content ourselves with the fact that a good deal has already been done in this area within the regiment, but instead must always manifest strict adherence to party principles in all matters, and unequivocally demand that those who permit negligence and breaches of discipline be held accountable.

Socialist competition plays a major role in providing for flight safety. And, in my view, there are still a great many unexploited possibilities in this area. Specifically, the system of totalling up the results of our work by higher staff could stand improvement. Suppose that the capability of providing for flight safety is evaluated separately for an air regiment and its subunits. We can imagine the following situation: there are no marks against the regiment under this plan, but there are marks against the specific battalion responsible for airfield equipment security. While it would seem that everything is fine for us and there is nothing to worry about, in fact, the various violations committed by our "subordinates" have had an effect on flight operations. The absence of close contact between regiment and battalion for purposes of warning of potentially dangerous situations, however, exerts a telling effect on the overall state of affairs. But, one's own "totalling" success under this plan sometimes lulls one into a false sense of security, and inhibits attempts at close contact and interaction with other aviation specialists.

Experience confirms that such contacts and mutual assistance are essential. And we are working to establish them. To this end, flight supervisor Lt Col A. Lobas has been assigned to discuss flight safety problems with the pilots and with the commander of the separate communications battalion responsible for communications security, Lt Col A. Savchenko. Afterwards, all critical remarks and suggestions expressed during the discussion were reported to the officers of the regiment and subunits. Commanders at all levels have come to more clearly understand the problems of the "neighbors", and most importantly--the role each officer must play in their resolution.

All of us need to give serious thought to the idea of ensuring flight safety--this is a mission of national importance. Its accomplishment requires highly purposeful work in planning and conducting flights, as well as the training and education of personnel. And, in the whole system of organizational and educational measures, the first plan, without any doubt, should always incorporate an individualized approach designed to instill in each aviator a responsible attitude toward the rules and regulations of flying, as well as a high level of discipline and professional skill.

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CSO: 1801/75

ARMED FORCES

COMMAND PROBLEM--COORDINATING COMBINED ARMS BATTLE

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Dec 84 p 2

[Article by Guards Lt Col Yu. Kurmatov, commander of Guards tank regiment, Red Banner Baltic Military District: "Attached to a Battalion...."]

[Text] The training battle developed in a difficult manner for the personnel. Operating in the first echelon, the subunits suffered "losses" during a breakthrough of the "enemy" defense and could not make an assault crossing of the river from the march as was intended. It was necessary to introduce adjustments into the concept. I decided to move a battalion from the second echelon up to the river.

This decision did not come easy. On the exercise, the battalion was commanded by the chief of staff, Guards Captain A. Fil'kov, a competent officer with initiative but not having sufficient practice in controlling a battle in a difficult tactical situation. Especially good management was required in this situation. In essence, on the march he was to receive for reinforcement subunits which, prior to this, had accomplished missions in the first echelon, organize coordination with the supporting artillery battalion in compressed time, reconnoiter the route of advance, and to think out how better to use helicopter strikes against the "enemy" during the assault crossing of the river.

It is not without doubts that I made adjustments to the initial concept of the training battle. For the umpires, if it can be so stated, were strict and whether the regiment would accomplish its obligations in competition depended on the grade.

But I doubted Guards Captain Fil'kov for nothing. He made decisions which corresponded to the tactical situation, instilled in his subordinates confidence that the difficult mission would be accomplished, and displayed that professional calm with which nervousness and haste are eliminated and, in the end, the efficient use of each training minute is ensured.

The reinforced battalion operated clearly. The men of the combat engineer platoon scouted approaches to the river and the nature of the bottom. The artillerymen of the supporting battalion adjusted quickly on strong points on the opposite bank and destroyed targets indicated by the commander of the supported battalion. It was supposed that the tanks must cross over a deep ford.

But reconnaissance reached the bridge so unexpectedly for the "enemy" and rained down such an intense concentration of firepower on his security elements that the umpire acknowledged: the bridge was captured undamaged. The battalion employed a combined method during the assault crossing: some of the tanks crossed under the water and some over the bridge. Aviation launched strikes against the "enemy" at precisely the moment when the tankmen could not utilize their own fire in full measure. Here, too, coordination was irreproachable.

Why do I analyze this episode in such detail? Because in practice one can often encounter examples of another type--the inability of commanders to employ skillfully everything with which their subunits are reinforced in battle. At times, we do not even especially reproach them for errors in this matter. The main thing, they say, is that they do not lose the threads of control of their subunits--motorized rifle and tank. And the artillerymen, chemical troops--scouts, and combat engineers, they say, know their business.

Meanwhile, practice shows: the addition of the forces of subunits which are co-operating on the battlefield and the complete utilization of their capabilities occur where the battle was permeated with combined-arms principles and the will of its organizer. I recall the chagrin which was caused me and really all the personnel of the regiment by one exercise with live firing. On that exercise, the subordinates of Guards Senior Lieutenant V. Samuylov coordinated with the motorized riflemen and artillerymen, neutralized the "enemy" defense by joint fire, and repelled a counterattack. In general, the result of the fire was satisfactory but lower than that which the personnel of each of the subunits showed, if it can so be said, on independent lessons and drills. It turns out, did they hamper one another? Yes, and this is not excluded where the coordination of diverse forces and weapons is not sufficiently clearly organized.

After another exercise we thoroughly analyzed the case where the battalion commander, Guards Captain V. Buryakov, turned to the regimental staff for help. It turned out that not all requests were valid and the capabilities of the subunits attached to the battalion were far from completely utilized.

And here how can we not recall the events which preceded the exercise. The officers of the regimental staff discovered with amazement that Guards Captain Buryakov planned to take only the tankmen to the field. It was necessary to attach artillerymen, motorized riflemen, and special subunits to the companies literally by order. As he expressed himself, the battalion commander was not very anxious to "lose time" on "secondary" questions.

And now, let us imagine how the battalion commander would have operated having received a difficult mission in an actual combat situation. Would he have remained indifferent to that paragraph of the combat order which discusses the attached and supporting subunits? Of course not. Most likely, the opposite. He would have pleaded with the senior commander for additional reinforcements. This often happened in the years of the Great Patriotic War. It is difficult to meet a frontline fighter--a former commander of a rifle or tank subunit who, in recalling his past, would forget to mention with a good word the "God of war"--the artillery, thank the aviators and pontonmen, or lament that at some stage there was not enough artillery or air support.

Today, the combined-arms principle is displayed in the nature of battle with even greater force. The very concept of "combined-arms commander" was filled a new and deeper content. The motorized rifle or tankman officer cannot consider himself to be professionally mature if he is not ready to control the forces and weapons of the various combat arms.

Where does competency in this area begin? In my opinion, with theoretical training--with a profound analysis of the combat capabilities of not only organizational equipment and weapons, but also of those of attached and supporting subunits. The officer is required to carry this store of knowledge from the auditorium of the military school. It is a pity that some graduates of schools must systematize their theoretical knowledge when they are already with the troops. This affects the times for their command development and forces them to expend the limited time in what is not the best manner and spend it on repeating what has been covered where they should proceed farther.

In the unit, the young officer should check theory with life and learn to use what is built into the equipment and weapons in a practical manner--against various tactical backgrounds, day and night, and under any weather and climate conditions. Here much depends on the thoughtful organization of command training, the degree to which the situation on exercises approaches combat reality, and the creation of conditions for the independent work of the young officers on themselves.

In analyzing the system of command training which has become firmly established in the regiment and which ensures favorable results on the whole, we see many omissions and shortfalls of the staff and the chiefs of arms and services. It is far from always that exercises with companies and battalions and tactical lessons with platoons have an individual, unique appearance. At times they are conducted, one can say, by the "assembly line" method--similar to one another, like twins. It is simpler like this. And really calmer: usually a variant is employed which has already brought the desired grade. And does an officer obtain much on an exercise where the personnel flow into the "streamlets" of an approach march formation and deploy into an assault line formation almost automatically, the tankmen in essence accomplish their own mission, the artillerymen their own against their own background, and the repairmen are bored in the rear area, regretting that they were "torn away" from independent lessons?

I often had the occasion to participate in difficult and interesting lessons which were organized in an exemplary manner. And nevertheless, they still have not become the daily standard and alternate with training battles where the "enemy" appears to be defeated ahead of time and stereotyped decisions are the most expedient. I am expressing not only my personal opinion. Recently, problems of the officers' professional improvement were discussed by us at an enlarged session of the party committee. The conversation proved to be objective and sharp.

Discussed in particular was the fact that there is not always observance of the rule that in mastering his duties for the post which he occupies the officer should also test even higher strengths. We seldom test an officer in a post a step or two higher than the one occupied, and this means we do not mobilize all his inner resources. In being concerned for the growth and improvement of

the combined-arms commander, we forget that commanders of special subunits also need a broad tactical horizon, an understanding of the nature of contemporary battle and, as they say, the ability to catch at once the meaning of the combat operations organizer's concept.

Command training is only gaining strength in the new training year. But adjustments in its organization are already making themselves felt. Without fail we are conducting group exercises on the terrain with the use of organizational communications equipment and under conditions of electronic jamming on the part of the enemy. We end lessons on gunnery training by working out a complex of problems in the control of a subunit's fire with consideration of destroying targets by attached and supporting weapons. Some of the artillery gunnery drills take place under the direction of combined-arms commanders, which is also of value to both trainees and leaders.

In striving to attach a searching nature to the exercises of subunits, we devote special attention to questions of the organization and maintenance of coordination of diverse forces and weapons and, so to say, its technology. Not only do senior commanders step forth in the role of researchers, but also young commanders who are trying to justify confidence and understand everything. Guards Captains O. Morozov and Yu. Volkov and Guards Senior Lieutenant A. Glushchenko showed their good worth in this regard.

A usual picture: officers with various insignia on their collar tabs are in a trench beneath a camouflage net. They all have the same combat mission. The artillery strikes just about from behind a copse, extended charges directed by combat engineers fly onto a minefield like fiery snakes, helicopter gunships announce their presence with surprise short-range concentrated fire, tanks and infantry fighting vehicles move over the range in an avalanche.... All this is like a mighty combat orchestra where the director is the combined-arms commander. And whether there will be dissonance in this mighty orchestra and whether false notes will be heard will depend on him and his knowledge, experience, and skill.

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CSO: 1801/99

ARMED FORCES

REVIEW: LENIN, COMBAT READINESS IN NUCLEAR ENVIRONMENT

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Dec 84 p 2

[Review by Col (Ret) V. Arkhipov of pamphlet "V. I. Lenin o bditel'nosti i boyevoy gotovnosti" [V. I. Lenin On Vigilance and Combat Readiness] by M. Ruban, Voenizdat, 1984, 80 pages, price 10 kopecks]

[Text] In his pamphlet M. Ruban collected and commented on the statements of V. I. Lenin on vigilance and combat readiness. And a needed and extremely topical booklet was obtained. You read the Lenin words and you are convinced of how fresh and timely they are, as if they were pronounced not two thirds of a century ago, but only yesterday or even today.

The pamphlet presents the well-known Lenin warning that the danger of a military attack on the Country of Soviets has not been lifted and that we are always within a hairbreadth of any invasion. Much water has flowed under the bridge since these words were spoken, but how burning they sound. Of course, times are different now, our strength has grown immeasurably, and it is not so easy to decide to attack us. But nevertheless.... Here are facts drawn from the pamphlet.

World War II had just been concluded. German fascism and Japanese militarism had been put down. The United Nations was founded. The foundations for post-war construction and the foundations for prolonged peace had been laid. And just at this time directives No 329 of 3 November 1945, No 329/1 of 3 December, and No 432/D of 14 December were signed in Washington. These documents envisaged the launching of nuclear strikes against 20 important targets on the territory of the Soviet Union. Among these targets were our biggest cities-- Moscow, Leningrad, Gor'kiy, Kuybyshev, Sverdlovsk, Novosibirsk, Baku, Chelyabinsk, Nizhniy Tagil, Magnitogorsk, Tbilisi, Irkutsk, Yaroslavl'....

A new plan for nuclear attack on the USSR was worked out by the middle of 1948. According to this sinister plan it was presumed that 133 nuclear bombs would be dropped on 70 Soviet cities in the first month of the war, including eight on Moscow and seven on Leningrad.

Stating honeyed words of friendship with us, the ringleaders of American imperialism held a heavy cobblestone in their breast pockets. They prepared for an

attack on the Soviet Union, prepared feverishly. Possessing a temporary monopoly in nuclear weapons, the U.S. imperialists then set forth on the path of blackmailing and threatening the USSR. But this stake of theirs proved to be beaten.

Imperialism is aggressive in its essence. Putting aside one plan of aggression, the imperialists worked out others even more sinister. The United States created a network of military blocs directed against our country. The chief bloc was the North Atlantic bloc. As is indicated in the pamphlet, it encompasses a territory of 22.2 million square kilometers with a population of more than half a billion people. The United States now has more than 1,500 military bases and installations on the territory of 32 states, the major portion being located close to the borders of the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist commonwealth.

Such is the scope of American imperialism's military preparations. They increased especially in the period of government by the Reagan administration. Reagan declared a crusade against socialism. Thoughts of the possibility of winning a nuclear war are propagated. In such a situation, the behests of V. I. Lenin set forth in his teaching on the defense of the socialist fatherland sound amazingly urgent.

Speaking in December 1921 at the Ninth All-Russian Congress of Soviets, V. I. Lenin said: "...Having undertaken our peaceful construction, we are applying all our strength to continue it without interruption. At the same time, comrades, be on the alert, take care of the defensive capability of our country and our Red Army as the apple of your eye and remember that we do not have the right to relax...even for a second." V. I. Lenin stressed that in a struggle with an insidious enemy "military discipline and military vigilance brought to the highest limits are necessary." "Redouble vigilance everywhere," he demanded in an appeal to the workers in 1919. And how important it is to remember this call today!

More than 150,000 people are now working in the intelligence corps of the United States, it is pointed out in the pamphlet. American spy satellites are flying. The Pentagon and the CIA do not even shun the use of civilian passenger airplanes for intelligence purposes. Hostile intelligence should be countered by the highest vigilance of all Soviet people and, of course, the Soviet servicemen.

The requirement of V. I. Lenin to constantly keep our powder dry and be in constant combat readiness is especially burning. Then, on the conclusion of the Civil War, this requirement pertained first of all to the border troops. Their service is no less important even now. But now many men are standing on the front line and in the first echelon of the Soviet Armed Forces whose battle stations are located in the depth of the country. We are speaking of the combat alert status of the missilemen. The peace of the entire country greatly depends on them and on their vigilance. For the American Pershing-2 and cruise missiles which have been emplaced in a number of countries of Western Europe are first-strike weapons. And Reagan's clumsy "joke" that he had given the order to bomb the Soviet Union which will begin in five minutes is not effaced from our memory.

"Study military affairs in a genuine manner," Lenin urged, and this call is just as sacred for the Soviet servicemen as for the Red Army men of the first years of the revolution. The pamphlet's author presents many examples of how our men are performing service vigilantly and persistently master combat skill. The Communist Party and the Soviet Government are tirelessly concerned about the strengthening of the Soviet Armed Forces' combat might. The country is giving the men the most modern weapons. These weapons should be mastered to perfection, they should be constantly kept in combat readiness, and military affairs should be studied persistently.

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CSO: 1801/104

ARMED FORCES

LACK OF MILITARY CAMARADERIE ASSAILED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Oct 84 p 2

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Correspondent, Capt 3d Rank A. Tkachev: "A Spurious Substitution"]

[Text] A couple of sheets of writing paper lying in front of me were covered with the notes "Done." The front of the paper proclaimed: "Measures to further strengthen military discipline and indoctrinate military comradeship in the radio-technical battalion [RTD]." There was a tremendous lot of measures, and they had been carried out in just a month. If the subunit's political worker, Capt Lt M. Pan'zhenskiy had compiled, as he initially intended, a list of measures for the 6 months that he had spent in the position by the time of our talk, he probably would have filled up a good half of a complete notebook. But Mikhail Ivanovich [Pan'zhenskiy] was getting ready for the next, immediate measure to indoctrinate comradeship and for this reason was short on time and had abbreviated the statement to, essentially, an introductory part. Whatever the case, all these measures had not in any way improved the state of affairs in the subunit. On the contrary, the very reason for our acquaintance had been an infraction of discipline in Crew's Quarters No 9, where the sailors from this battalion lived.

The ship commander had issued an order and punished the guilty parties. A quarter of the sailors in regular service had been reprimanded for impoliteness and a lack of tact shown to a fellow serviceman. They were also held responsible before the Komsomol organization which announced strict reprimands against all of them. It must be pointed out that in the subunit there had been extensive indoctrinational work carried out over what had happened.

But the question arises: had the series of meetings and reports led to a resolution of the main question? In order to grasp all of this, it is important initially at least briefly to explain just what military comradeship means for us. At that time, they were constantly talking about this on the ship and the four violators of discipline had also endeavored to take cover behind this noble concept. As if by tacit agreement, each had mentioned that the sailor which they had insulted had shortcomings....

It turned out that none of them "needed" a comrade (fellow serviceman) whose character was not to their liking. They did not even notice--and, unfortunately, no one corrected them--that the very logic leads to a blind alley. Because

in real life there are no persons without shortcomings. Each of the four sailors had a number of flaws in his own character. And if one follows their own logic to an end, on these grounds any other fellow serviceman would have been "right" not to consider them as comrades.

No military collective can resolve its own internal problems if such views of military comradeship prevail. Moreover, by both theory and practice the question of military comradeship has been resolved in the same manner. "A serviceman is obliged," state the Internal Service Regulations of the USSR Armed Forces, "to value military comradeship, to help comrades in word and deed, to restrain them from unworthy actions and, nor sparing his own life, to help them out of danger...."

The key word in this quotation is "obliged." If you are a serviceman, it is your direct obligation to be a true comrade for fellow servicemen (all without exception), and in terms of each of them observe all the standards of Soviet military comradeship. Each serviceman is obliged to carry out this prescribed provision just as unswervingly as we all carry out the laws of the state.

At the same time, at the All-Army Conference of Komsomol Organization Secretaries it was pointed out that servicemen are still encountered in certain areas who forget the sacred moral, traditional and prescribed standard of combat comradeship. How in one subunit are they able to establish a healthy moral atmosphere while another subunit is constantly in turmoil?

As practice shows, the basis of such a dichotomy is most often the prescribed (or unprescribed) organization of all the subunit's life. Every officer and warrant officer ["michman," "praporshchik"] knows that high military discipline, without which there can be no true troop comradeship, is achieved by maintaining prescribed order in the unit (on the ship, in the subunit) and where there is no prescribed order the situation cannot be controlled by measures such as lectures, talks and meetings. The measures themselves can and should be carried out but words should not take the place of deeds or appeals substitute for careful organizational work.

In order to revert to the facts, let us compare the state of affairs and the work style of the two officers, the RTD commanders: Capt 3d Rank V. Gridnev who serves on an ASW cruiser and the subunit where the mentioned infraction of discipline occurred, Capt Lt S. Gusev from the patrol boat "Bezukoriznennyy." Such a comparison is valid as both subunits were organized by new recruits from a training detachment, in the course of combat training they carry out analogous problems, the servicemen operate similar equipment and are virtually under the same living conditions. Thus, the initial "material" available to both officers can be considered equal. But why then did one subunit end up at the tail of the competition while the other steadily sets the example of high discipline, dependable maintenance of the equipment and true naval comradeship?

Capt 3d Rank Gridnev is inclined to see the root of all evils in the crew's quarters as there, supposedly, individuals at times can set the tone. Capt Lt Gusev, on the contrary, feels that the crew's quarters relieve him of a mass of indoctrinational concerns and are his assistant and ally. In and of themselves no crew's quarters possesses positive or negative properties. Its indoctrinational properties are determined by the fact that the sailor rests here after a

watch, he prepares for viewings and exercises, he writes letters, shares his concerns with fellow servicemen, discusses the events of ship life with them, he debates with some and may defend someone else in a heated argument. Here the sailor satisfies his need for a moral judgment of his own and others' actions. The testing of all truths about military comradeship which he hears here are checked against life itself and daily relationships. And without fail in the crew's quarters there are authoritative sailors who play the role of interpreters of these truths and whose personal conduct is viewed by a majority as "normal" and worthy of imitation. And they set the tone.

In the RTD crew's quarters on the "Bezukoriznennyy," such a standard is set by Sr Sn P. Gulyayev who is well regarded among the sailors. How, as they say, did he get this? Take Sn Sakhanov who arrived in the subunit from the next group of recruits. Who acquainted him with the ship, helped him settle in in his quarters, involved him in the affairs of the Komsomol group and trained him for independent standing of a watch? Sr Sn Gulyayev. And after this, what attitude would you expect from Sn Sakhanov? One of an elder brother, sure enough. Is there anything unusual to this? This is what should be in a military collective. And this is completely how Gulyayev himself was welcomed on the boat. Because here from each group of new recruits they produce excellent sailors, comrades in arms and for life.

But in Crew's Quarters No 9 of the ASW cruiser where the infraction occurred, indifference or even hazing may await a young sailor. And for sailors such as Timets, Novak, Kritsyn or Voronezhskiy, it was their rule to insult a new man. All of this was taken as "normal" conduct. In discussing the conduct of the four violators of discipline, there was no lack of angry actions but.... But they acted angrily because they were sailors from other quarters and subunits. But when things came round to the representatives of the 9th quarters, the pitch of accusations declined noticeably.

In analyzing the preconditions of the infraction, the senior chiefs pointed out to the RTD commander Capt 3d Rank Gridnev that there was a gap between word and deed, between "what was to be done" and "how to do it," and that this was the main reason for the not quite good situation with discipline and military comradeship in the subunit. The main reason for the existence of such a gap was pointed out: a negligent attitude toward service by Officers Gridnev and Pan'zhenskiy and their inclination both personally to ignore prescribed duties as well as free individual sailors from the overall requirements of ship service. There was a clear instance of a spurious substitution: mere talking about the need for certain deeds instead of concrete and real action, "general" measures instead of real work with specific people and "all hands" after problems instead of constant prescribed exactingness.

To the same degree that Capt Lt Gusev endeavored to get closer to the quarters, to thoroughly know the men and rely on the morally superior sailors, so Capt 3d Rank Gridnev avoided working with the men, he visited the quarters only when necessary and showed support (in actuality and not in words) for sailors who did not always actually merit this.

And what was the result? The commander of the patrol boat "Bezukoriznennyy" called Capt Lt Gusev an officer whose every word was trusted by the sailors and

he himself. It is easy to guess what the responses would have been about Capt 3d Rank Gridnev....

What does a soldier or sailor write home about as the most important news? He writes that serving with him are true comrades with whom and for whom he is ready to go through fire and water. For the Soviet military, military comradeship is an enormous moral virtue which enhances all life by their belief in our ideals. Such a letter is a joy to all.

And there should not be other news from the regiments and the ships.

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CSO: 1801/53

ARMED FORCES

LETTERS TO KRASNAYA ZVEZDA EDITOR, RESPONSES

Aviation Fuel Discipline Tightened

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Nov 84 p 2

[Article: "The Matter Smells of Kerosene"]

[Text] The report by Colonel Yu. Teplov and Major N. Medvedev published under this heading [The Matter Smells of Kerosene] on 22 September discussed serious omissions in the work of a number of officials, including the unit commander, Major A. Kulik.

As reported to the editors by the Air Forces Chief of the Political Department, Urals Military District, Major General of Aviation V. Yel'chaninov, the newspaper article was discussed at a conference of leader personnel of the district's Air Forces and in the Political Department. Monitoring of the formation of a healthy moral and ethical climate in the troop collectives and of the strengthening of discipline and legality has been intensified. It was recommended that questions of increasing the responsibility of communist-leaders for the indoctrination and training of subordinates be examined at sessions of party committees and party buros in all air units of the district. Shortcomings in the leadership of subordinate units and in the selection of officials were strictly pointed out to Colonel A. Pimoshin.

The GSM [fuels and lubricants] service and people's controllers checked the correctness and legality of aviation fuel consumption in the units. The results of the check were reported at a session of the Urals Military District's military council.

For machinations concerning kerosene Major A. Kulik and Warrant Officer [praporshchik] N. Shokov were released from the Armed Forces, Captain Yu. Stavrinidi was relieved of his post and assigned with a demotion, and Major V. Katin received disciplinary punishment. They were all made strictly answerable to the party.

Warrant Officer's Failure Discussed

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Nov 84 p 2

[Article by Warrant Officer S. Adrov, Red Banner Central Asian Military District: "Is the Lesson to No Advantage?"]

[Text] Let me say directly, it was a bitter experience which forced me to take pen in hand. A young warrant officer [praporshchik] of our unit, Komsomol A. Lebedev, was released to the reserve early because of unworthy behavior and the negligent performance of official duties.

But you see, a year ago Lebedev, as it seemed to many, donned with pride the uniform of a warrant officer. Prior to that, he performed his active service with us. He presented himself in a good light. And, I believe, it was not suddenly and not in one day that the decision to remain in the army and continue service matured in him. But then Lebedev put on the shoulder boards with the stars and began to change before our eyes. He was advised to continue his professional growth. In response, Lebedev only brushed them aside: he said that had learned and that is sufficient. He was reproached because the equipment was not looked after. Lebedev referred to the negligence of his subordinates.

They soon began to notice him in an intoxicated state. The farther he went, the more it was observed.... Was it possible to prevent misfortune and halt Lebedev's fall? I am confident that it was possible. The commander and other senior comrades applied much effort for this. But you automatically turn your attention to the fact that his fellow-servicemen and contemporaries simply turned away from him. Unfortunately, the Komsomol organization did not state its significant word either.

I know that Lebedev has ambition. Is it possible that it would have been worth comparing his successes with the successes of his comrades a little more often? Let us say, for example, with those of Warrant Officer I. Manin. He donned the shoulder boards with the stars on the same day as Lebedev. But his service developed differently. It is not without purpose that on an exercise, having completed the training year, he and his subordinates who, by the way, equal him in everything, demonstrated high-class work.

The Komsomol organization also could have involved in working with Lebedev such experienced warrant officers of ours as K. Amanzholov, A. Kernichanskiy, G. Tkach, and M. Kanayev who have been serving for long years and are giving their all to their beloved cause. Of course, perhaps, success would not have been achieved at once. There would be both agitation and grief. But in return, with what can one compare the joy from the realization that there is also a fraction of your participation in the straightening out of a comrade's fate.

But Lebedev's fellow-servicemen were not fated to experience this joy. When he was released, some of them even sighed with relief:

"Now there will be less of any unpleasantness...."

I should also like to believe this. But my soul is uneasy. Here, for example, I look at the way Warrant Officer S. Kolchanov and several other of our young specialists are serving and I see that in many ways they can repeat Lebedev's path.

"We will not permit it," they assure us in the Komsomol Committee. But why, then, play the liberal with those who have decided to ride through service lightly and to work so-so?

Lieutenant S. Kubrakov, Warrant Officer A. Makoveyev, and others only shrug their shoulders in bewilderment. They say, how does this concern me? Thus far, nothing has happened. When something happens, then we will react. A strange position. Evidently, Lebedev's case has not become a lesson.

Military Railroad Ticket Sales

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Nov 84 p 2

[Article: "At the Railroad Ticket Office"]

[Text] A note by Major N. Parshikov was published under this title on 18 September. As reported to the editors by the Deputy Chief of the Main Passenger Directorate, USSR Ministry of Railways, L. Ryabukha, a number of measures are being undertaken to improve the servicing of military passengers. In particular, in Moscow the changeover to a new automated system for controlling the sale of tickets, the "Express-2," which possesses improved resolving power is being completed. A new military request form has been developed to speed up the process of drawing up travel documents and will be introduced in 1985.

Military Railroad Economizing Criticized

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Nov p 2

[Article by Lt Col Yu. Lashch: "You Don't Correct Matters by Penalties Alone"]

[Text] The movement for economy and thrift occupies an important place in the life of military collectives. A new impetus in the development of initiative and creativity was provided by the decisions of the October (1984) plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the instructions of Comrade K. U. Chernenko which he expressed in a speech at a recent session of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo concerning the necessity to continue persistently the line for intensifying the economy regime in all branches.

Through inventions and skill as well as thorough calculation and organization, many military collectives are succeeding in making a notable contribution to the budget of the five-year plan. But, unfortunately, now and then it also happens that painstaking work of many days is reduced to naught and cancelled out by someone's indifference and irresponsibility.

I present the following example. For the nature of its activity, I am well acquainted with the work of the military railway service of the Carpathian Military District. I know how they are trying here to utilize railway cars more

efficiently. On the initiative of Lieutenant Colonel M. Ovcharov, Major D. Yeremenko, Captain N. Galkin, and other officers many innovations have been developed and introduced which permitted saving tens of thousands of rubles this year already.

But nevertheless, I believe that the economic impact from this undertaking could be much more tangible if all those who are directly linked with the use of railroad transport regarded their responsibilities just as creatively and in just as businesslike a manner. However, one can often be convinced that some commanders approach the organization of shipments without proper responsibility. Especially among leaders of military construction organizations and units. They often introduce changes into plans which have been approved for times as well as for requirements for transportation equipment. They evidently reason as follows: we settle up with the railroad personnel not with rubles on hand but with invoice-requests, so is it worth racking our brains over how many cars to order and how to arrange the cargo in them?

Meanwhile, the idling of cars increases, inflicting great loss on the state. Here are only recent facts. On the spur tracks of the military-construction organization headed by Colonel S. Korobkin, the idling of cars this year was more than 1,100 car-hours, almost twice as much--through the fault of the military builders commanded by Lieutenant Colonel V. Volosevich. Many complaints can also be made against the subordinates of Colonel V. Sologubov for the organization of freight-handling work on the railroad.

Even the spur tracks themselves tell of the attitudes of these leaders toward their duties: here one can find both broken sets of structural elements and construction materials flung in the mud. But you see, the people's money is in each kilogram of spilled cement, in each broken brick....

Of course, the railroad is charged negligence penalties for the incorrect use and idling of the railroad cars. But this money again comes from the state's pocket. The time has come to hold more strictly responsible those who permit mismanagement and extravagance.

Officer's Wife's Complaint Answered

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Nov 84 p 2

[Article: "A Post for my Husband"]

[Text] Dear editors! I received the desire to write the newspaper after I read the report, "My Husband Deserves a Promotion," published in 1 August. It contains too much sarcasm directed toward women who, they say, open the way to posts for their husbands. But how can one not go through channels when they do not notice a person who is close and evade? Here my husband was offered the post of teacher at the Khabarovsk Higher Military Construction School, but it was occupied by another officer....

Ol'ga K.

An officer of the Political Directorate, Far East Military District, Colonel K. Koryakin, answers the letter from the reader whose name we do not give for obvious reasons.

First, taking advantage of the opportunity, I should like to express my opinion of the newspaper article which the letter's author recalls. In the newspaper, it is noted absolutely correctly that in appealing through channels women proceed in an extremely unethical manner. And first of all--as regards their own husbands. Such appeals are actually capable of really engendering a sense of awkwardness concerning one or another officer or warrant officer [praporshchik] and even doubts in their high professional qualities.

I will be frank: in reading the letter from Ol'ga K., I also experienced such feelings. As I know, this woman has already been received by many officials. They explained to her patiently why her husband is not advancing in his duties, that he is not the only one who has no punishments and served in the district for a long time (her basic arguments), and that all this is still far from sufficient for him to occupy a more responsible post. It is a pity that the officer's wife was never able to evaluate the situation correctly and again casts doubts on obvious facts using in so doing, to put it mildly, inaccurate information.

First, in general there was no talk of assigning officer K. to a teaching post. And really, there could be none because of his unpreparedness for such work. And when another vacancy appeared, the officer was really invited for a talk. However, they were convinced once again that for the present the person does not have sufficient knowledge and experience for such an advancement. I can report that assigned to the post was Major V. Chernov who also served a long time in our district but enviably is distinguished from the other candidates by professional erudition and good skills in working with people. Judging from the first comments, he has already become completely familiar with his new duties.

By the way, what hinders his service growth was stated completely frankly to officer K. and he regarded the severe but valid evaluation of his achievements and capabilities with understanding. For he knows well that it is precisely after such general but of course not very pleasant and useful talks that many officers radically restructure their work, which subsequently affects their service advance without fail.

So that in no way can it be said that allegedly someone "does not notice" Ol'ga K's husband and, what is more, regards him with prejudice and unfairly. His fate as an officer is in his own hands. His good continuation will be furthered by greater industriousness and responsibility for the assigned matter and by the accumulation of experience, but in no way by his wife's "solicitations."

Performance Ratings Questioned

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Nov 84 p 2

[Article by Capt S. Mikoshin, secretary of regimental party committee:
"Carbon-Copy Performance Ratings"]

[Text] This spring the young replacements reached the regiment--tank commanders, gunner-operators, and driver-mechanics. On lessons in driving and firing the majority of them demonstrated sufficiently firm skills in the mastery of weapons and equipment. However, this group also contained soldiers who could not confirm the grades given them in the training subunits on several lessons.

Commanders and political officers reread once again the performance ratings with which the young specialists came to us in the hope that this will help organize work with them more clearly. The hopes, it turned out, were in vain. Here, for example, is the performance rating for Private K. Nistratov: "During the time of service and training he proved himself to be a competent and disciplined serviceman. He knows the materiel and operates the vehicle skillfully. As regards military bearing he is smart and well developed physically. Conclusion: as regards his professional and moral-political qualities he is worthy of assignment as a tank commander." The performance ratings for Privates Yu. Dorofeyev and G. Novikov do not differ from the one I have quoted by even one word. The platoon leader, Lieutenant Koyka, and the company commander, Captain Matyukhin, did not see any noteworthy features in their pupils. Such twin documents were created by Captains Volkotrub and Belenkov and Senior Lieutenant Ilyushin.

Unquestionably, it is not easy to make a profound study of a soldier during several months of training and give a capacious evaluation of his personality's characteristics, and it is precisely this which is required of the performance rating. To set forth an opinion of him on paper with sufficient objectivity, I know from my own experience, is also difficult. But nevertheless the main features of the character, abilities, and inclinations can and should be disclosed during this time. One's conclusions should be disclosed and shared with teachers under whose command the soldier will continue his service. This will permit spending less time subsequently on the study of the distinguishing qualities, characteristics, merits, and shortcomings of people, and more--on effective indoctrinational work.

In my opinion, this question should be posed more broadly. For it is no secret that at times graduates of military schools are also sent off on their officer path with twin documents. I often had the occasion to see party performance ratings which differ from one another only by their names.

It is believed that this problem is not simple. Performance ratings and efficiency reports are long-acting documents. They accompany a person for many years, help him to determine his moral reference points more precisely, and give personnel organs the opportunity to utilize his capabilities most expediently, and they are an important facet of work with personnel. Nor is it out of place to remember that these documents also characterize with full clarity those who sign them.

Socialist Obligations Discussed

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Nov 84 p 2

[Article by Maj Gen N. Morozov, deputy chief for combat training, Air Defense Troops: "Initiative with a 'Load'?"]

[Text] Dear Editors! The past training year brought certain successes to our subunit. At the same time, obligations were not accomplished for individual indices. To a great extent, this occurred because some goals recommended "from above" proved to be higher than the subunit's capabilities. I should like to learn the opinion of my senior comrades: how can obligations be assumed more expediently so that they are not only high, but also practicable?

Senior Lieutenant A. Zhelezin

The editors acquainted the deputy chief for combat training of the Air Defense Troops, Major General N. Morozov, with this letter and asked him to answer the officer.

Now, when preparations for the new training year are being completed among the troops, the question posed by the officer sounds especially timely. Indeed, how can obligations be assumed so that they stimulate people to actively seek new reserves for the improvement of combat readiness?

I believe that all-embracing recommendations on this score do not exist and really, there is hardly any need for them: for competition, including the adoption of obligations, is a creative matter. At the same time, the experience of many years convinces us that the most expedient procedure for the working out of socialist obligations is one where each participant in the competition--each soldier and sergeant, each warrant officer [praporshchik] and officer--himself determines the goals for his future achievements. Then the individual obligations of the men are summed up and collective obligations are outlined for the subunits and units. They are discussed at meetings of the personnel. And the more thoroughly the capabilities of each serviceman are weighed during the discussion, the more reliable is success.

Here is one example.

From year to year, confirming the title of excellent subunit first place in the competition was won by the radio battery commanded by Captain V. Selyuk. Knowing the capabilities of each soldier and crew and relying on the party and Komsomol activists, Captain Selyuk encouraged the initiative of his subordinates and directed them toward high obligations. Subsequently, skillfully maintaining the spark of healthy rivalry between the competitors, the officers of the subunit mobilized their subordinates so that each one of them firmly kept his word.

And let us take the personnel of the Guards surface-to-air missile regiment which raised the banner of competition in the Air Defense Troops two years in a row.

The words of the Guards-missilemen did not deviate from deeds. And to a great extent, this is because the obligations were assumed with consideration of the individual capabilities of each man and the potential capabilities of the subunits and the regiment as a whole.

There are a great number of examples of this character. Just as deep rivers arise from streams, so is the vivifying force of competition in the leading troop collectives multiplied from the persistent striving of each of its participants to master the highest possible goals in which the reflection of the obligations which have been assumed are precisely found.

Unfortunately, sometimes such a load is added on instructions "from above" to the initiative of the competitors as also occurred in the subunit where Senior Lieutenant A. Zhelezin serves. This stifles the initiative of the competitors and the subunits are unable to accomplish the actually excessive obligations which do not meet the real capabilities of the troop collective.

There is also another extreme. Referring to the fact that competition is a creative matter, some servicemen select the "golden mean": they say, maybe they won't praise us later, but they will have no reason to scold us. And so, at times obligations appear and goals are outlined which knowingly are understated and do not direct people toward strained work. This fits right in only with the plans of the "middle-of-the-roaders" and those who, as they say, like a quiet and peaceful life.

Clearly, in such a case competition cannot actively serve the cause of combat readiness and is transformed into a formality.

The process of adopting obligations should certainly be creative. For here the long-term prospects are outlined in essence. And those commanders and political officers proceed correctly who skillfully direct the energy of the men to the required channel and aim people toward the attainment of the highest goals on the basis of the troop collective's practicable capabilities. Obligations "from above" and as a "load" cannot further the broad initiation of competition, just as occurred in the subunit where Senior Lieutenant A. Zhelezin serves.

Post Exchange Abuses Corrected

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Dec 84 p 2

[Article: "They Remained Unpunished"]

[Text] This was the title [They Remained Unpunished] of the report by Colonel V. Nagornyy published on 29 September. It discussed confusion in the post exchange managed by I. Dunichev.

As reported to the editors by the chief of the trade directorate of the Moscow Air Defense District, Colonel A. Katsel', the facts presented in the report occurred. They are being checked by the district's prosecutor's office. The poor control of the store's work has been strictly pointed out to the chief of the post exchange, I. Dunichev. Salesladies R. Dunayeva and V. Akulova have been dismissed for abuses as having forfeited trust. On the post, a customer's conference has been conducted at which questions of improving the servicing of servicemen and members of their families were examined.

Officers Complain of Misassignment

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Dec 84 p 2

[Article: "Assign--Reassign"]

[Text] Dear Editors! This year we completed the Kirov Military Aviation-Technical School in the "helicopters and engines" specialty. We were assigned to one of the air units of the Moscow Military District. We arrived there and were astonished: we were to service...airplanes. Then why did they teach us for several years, for must not this specialty be mastered almost from the beginning?

Lieutenants Yu. Kushnarenko and
S. Konstantinov

Dear Editors! I already turned to you for assistance in August--after completing the Kirov Military Aviation-Technical School I was sent to serve in a specialty other than my own.... Up to now I have received no reply and am continuing to retrain with difficulty.

Lieutenant V. Morozov

Letters from graduates of this school who were assigned to posts which were not in their specialty also reached the editors earlier. We sent them to the appropriate command echelon for consideration. The deputy chief of the Air Forces Personnel Directorate, Colonel V. Neklyudov, reported that measures have been adopted on the letter of Lieutenants A. Korytov, V. Terekhin, O. Antonov, and other officer-technicians: in October an instruction was issued to the corresponding command echelon of the Moscow Military District's Air Forces concerning the detachment of the lieutenants to other units where they will be used in their specialty. But it is a pity that this report does not indicate through whose fault such an appointment occurred and who is responsible for it since such "detachment" from unit to unit and the retraining of the young officers which is in no way justified costs the state considerable expense and does not affect the combat readiness of the units in the best manner. It is also a pity that judging from the letters which continue to reach the editors, for the present the matter does not proceed farther than the instruction on the specific case.

Predraftee Physical Conditioning Discussed

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Dec 84 p 2

[Article: Five Responses to One Letter"]

[Text] Under difficult weather conditions, at night, and in a blizzard our battalion was to execute a multi-kilometer march in the mountains and organize an ambush on the "enemy's" route of advance. The subunit coped with the mission but, in accomplishing it, it had the occasion to encounter the fact that one of the men, strapping and strong in appearance, suddenly began to give up. Most likely he would not have reached the destination independently had it not been for the assistance of his comrades. And you see, there was to be a battle, even if a training one....

Unfortunately, analogous situations are not so rare. They show that among those called up to the army after completion of school or vocational and technical school those who are physically weak are often encountered. Although the absolute majority are wearers of the GTO [Ready for Labor and Defense] badge, and this by itself should testify to the sufficient level of physical preparedness. So it is necessary to expend considerable time and effort initially not to be engaged in raising the tempering of such soldiers but only somehow filling the gap in the physical upbringing of the youths.

In my opinion, there are several reasons for this situation, but the main one is that the predraftees are frequently on friendly terms with sport theoretically and love it on the television screen. Therefore, it is believed, it is absolutely correct that a provision for the further improvement of the physical training of the youth has been introduced into school reform. It should be so organized that strength, dexterity, boldness, and resoluteness are acquired and will is strengthened. It is precisely these qualities which are necessary for each defender of the motherland.

Captain S. Marzoyev

There are many letters with this content in the editors' mail. Their authors are united by a personal interest in improving the entire system for the physical education of the rising generation. But various means and methods by which this can be attained are proposed. Therefore, the editors requested specialists of various categories to comment on Captain S. Marzoyev's letter.

Hero of the Soviet Union Major G. Kuchkin: In practice, I also had the occasion to encounter young soldiers whose physical tempering was a little weak. It is completely natural that the mastery of combat equipment and weapons comes to such men with extreme difficulty. I will present an example. The subunit where I was the deputy commander for political affairs executed a march over broken terrain. It was difficult. A good 72 pounds on the shoulders of the men bent them toward the ground and broke the body. Suddenly I heard Sergeant Naumenko offer to help a young soldier. The latter refused, although each step cost him tremendous efforts. I should have been pleased--a fact of mutual assistance was evident; however, on the other hand, how could one be satisfied if someone did not withstand the strain and this means pulling the entire subunit backwards.

Later it was learned that in school this soldier was frequently excused from physical culture because of colds. And this was instead of tempering and active engagement in sport.

In analyzing all this, I believe that more attention should be devoted to accustoming the youths to lessons in applied-military types of sport: various all-around combined tournaments, skiing, running, and swimming. It is necessary to raise the role of the sports sections. Frequently they are engaged only in the training of qualified sportsmen and the entrance to those who simply want to strengthen their health and temper themselves there is often closed. And one more remark: in talking with young servicemen, I often heard that the

DOSAAF organization operated only "on paper" and that none of the future servicemen are attracted to lessons in technical types of sport which simply are necessary for service in the army.

N. Titov, teacher of Moscow school No 1140: A new program in physical culture is operating in the school beginning with this training year. It is believed that on the whole it meets the spirit of the times and the contemporary tasks for the harmonious development of the youth. It is important that the program has an applied-military direction and furthers the instilling of courage and resoluteness. It is appropriate to state that this document also envisions the conduct of theoretical lessons on the principles of hygiene, physiology, and psychology and is also extremely timely.

At the same time, let me note that the program does not consider in full measure the fact that the motive activity of the schoolboys is decreasing noticeably. Especially among the senior classmen who spend a considerable portion of their time behind a desk or writing table.

But there are also problems connected, let us say, with the equipping of gymnasiums and sports grounds. It would be good to obtain the equipment in a centralized manner, on a standard industrial basis.

Unfortunately, one must often be convinced that physical culture in school is more and more becoming a secondary subject. This is utterly incorrect: for it is not for naught that the people say that health is the key to everything. It is naive to count on strong health without lessons in physical culture and sport.

Colonel A. Tatarinov, deputy Moscow military commissar for call-up and preconscription military training: The author of the letter is absolutely correct in stating that the system of physical training of the rising generation should completely assist in the comprehensive development of the youth and preparing it for highly productive labor and the defense of the motherland.

Life suggests that it is necessary to define clearly the requirements for professional-applied training of the schoolboy with consideration the special features and nature of his future profession and, really, of military service, and to organize work on physical training accordingly. For the present many vagaries and much discord exist in this important matter.

Several words about the GTO complex. It is poor that now only a small portion of the teenagers--basically members of combined teams and young army subunits--are involved in regular military-sports lessons during non-study time. As a result of poor extra-curricular work the basic mass of the pupils do not participate and, as a result, do not accomplish the standards for primary military training and the GTO complex.

Yu. Boyko, first deputy chief of the Department for Sports and Mass-Defense Work of the Komsomol Central Committee: At times you hear that the absence of a sports base has a negative effect on the level of physical tempering of the youths called up from rural areas. In any case, at times they want to convince us of this, justifying their own inactivity, passivity, and dependent waiting for assistance from outside. For with the desire competitions in soccer,

volleyball, swimming, skiing and cross-country running can be organized everywhere and no special base is required here.

We should wage a decisive struggle against formalism. Up till now virtually the main thing is accomplishing the plan to "include" the schoolboys in the passing of the GTO standards at any price and to fill the column in the corresponding reports. Such a practice inevitably leads to all possible postscripts, "faked" reports, and exaggerated figures. And at the same time it disillusiones the youngsters and causes them to withdraw from sports.

G. Meykson, chief of the laboratory for maintenance and methods of physical training of the Scientific Research Institute for the Physiology of Children and Teenagers of the USSR Academy of Pedagogical Sciences: I agree with Colonel A. Tatarinov and with his formulation of the problem that today more attention should be devoted to the professional-applied training of pupils with consideration of the special features and nature of future service. Jointly with the USSR Ministry of Education, we published a book which gives recommendations on improving the physical state of training of the senior classmen. In general, there should be more textbooks on physical culture. In analyzing the results of one of the physiological-pedagogical experiments, we paid attention to the fact that neither programs nor a rich material base guarantee success if there is no creative approach.

As a rule, one year passes between the completion of school and call-up to the army. A kind of vacuum is obtained. And if at one time a love for sport and skills in independent lessons were not inculcated in a young person, everything acquired earlier begins to waste away. It turns out that at the enterprises and in kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and institutions it should be remembered that work should be continued with the draftees on their physical improvement.

We ask ourselves the question: can we formulate criteria for evaluating the school's work in physical training? I would place among the first criteria its mass nature, level of physical preparedness, the degree to which the schoolboys are embraced by the GTO complex, and the state of their health. Of course, I exclude a formal approach to all this.

The time has come to conduct an examination in physical training in the 10th grade with the mandatory presence of representatives of the military commissariat. Naturally, the indicator of physical condition should be considered just as important as the grades in general educational subjects.

School is now oriented on knowledge, only on knowledge. And it should also become a school of health. It is very important!

Shipboard Socialist Competition Tightened

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Dec 84 p 2

[Article: Break in the Chain"]

[Text] The material by Captain-Lieutenant M. Lukanin which discussed the low effectiveness of competition on the escort ship "Gromkiy" was published under

this heading [Break in the Chain] this 20 September. The editors have received an official reply signed by the chief of the unit's political department. It reports that the shortcomings noted by the newspaper and measures for their elimination were discussed in the ship's party organization and in the course of the election campaign in the unit's party and Komsomol organizations.

Communists officers V. Modestov, Yu. Rudenko, S. Vel'chu, I. Zhevagin, and L. Turchaninov were made answerable to the party. Captain 3d Rank O. Savel'yev was relieved of his post as commander of Department 2 and assigned with a demotion.

In assuming obligations in competition for the new training year, the leading experience of the crew of the cruiser "Kirov" was adopted more objectively on the ships of the unit.

6367

CSO: 1801/86

ARMED FORCES

PRIVATE RECEIVES POSTHUMOUS ORDER OF RED STAR

Moscow VEDOMOSTI VERKHOVNOGO SOVETA SOYUZA SOVETSKIKH SOTSIALISTICHESKIKH
RESPUBLIK in Russian No 50 (2280) 12 Dec 84 p 947

[Text] 903. On awarding to Private Apetenko, O.P. the Order of the Red Star.

For courage and bravery exhibited in the fulfillment of his military duty,
Private Apetenko, Oleg Petrovich is awarded the Order of the Red Star
(posthumously).

Chairman of the Presidium of the
USSR Supreme Soviet K. Chernenko

Secretary of the Presidium of the
USSR Supreme Soviet T. Menteshashvili

Moscow, the Kremlin, 4 December 1984.
No 1 460-XI.

CSO: 1801/115

ARMED FORCES

OFFICERS IDENTIFIED: KOCHKIN, VOSTROV

[Editorial Report] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA of 30 December 1984 carries on page 2 a 300-word article entitled "Komsomol Conference" which reports on a Komsomol conference in the Central Asian Military District. The article identified Major General G. Kochkin as a member of the Military Council and chief of the district's Political Directorate.

Similarly Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA of 10 January 1985 carries on page 2 a 400-word report of a Komsomol conference in the Siberian Military District by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA's correspondent Lieutenant Colonel N. Fedoseyev. The Article identifies Colonel General V. Vostrov as "Commander of the District's Forces."

CSO: 1801/128

GROUND FORCES

IMPORTANCE OF TANK TACTICAL TRAINING EMPHASIZED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 31 Oct 84 p 2

[Article by Col V. Dotsenko, Red-Banner Pricarpathian Military District, under the rubric: "Draw Correct Conclusions": "Observations of One Who Checks"]

[Text] The tank crew members thoroughly prepared themselves for the drill with live firing. It appeared that everything had been done to ensure that at the final stage of the training year nothing would prevent them from attaining the high marks in the competition which the socialist responsibility called for. Nevertheless, the battalion still did not manage, as they say, to get an "outstanding."

Even as the subunit was advancing toward the starting line of attack, the crew's inadequate tactical training was noticeable. This was particularly noticeable in the actions of the company commanded by Sr Lt V. Stel'makh. The terrain lent itself to their advantage: in particular, it was possible to flank the "enemy" without being seen, with protection from the antitank fire. However, Sr Lieutenant Stel'makh's subordinates for some reason ignored these possibilities.

What did the tankers have in mind? As it turned out, they were placing particular emphasis on firing. They felt that if there are holes in the targets, then the tactics would naturally follow. But they found out that it was not so: the tactics did not naturally follow.

While fighting in the depths of the enemy's defense, the battalion met with stubborn opposition of the "enemy." Here it was important to quickly detect, correctly assess and assign targets, and to organize the reliable suppression of antitank weapons in particular. The majority of the crews opened fire only on armored targets, almost ignoring such antitank weapons such as grenade launchers and antitank guided missiles.

Observing the actions of this subunit, it was not difficult to conclude that the daily training process is based on the oversimplified presentation of present-day battle, that little attention is paid not only to whether the crews know how to fire accurately, but also the best way to use the terrain, and the capabilities of equipment and weapons to strike/engage (Porzajt') the enemy. The consequence of this approach is poor habits on the part of the tank commanders and gunners in reconnoitering targets, evaluating and selecting them for first priority destruction.

The character of the "enemy's" actions, who was actively using reserves for conducting the counterattack and building barriers, made it absolutely necessary to accurately coordinate the efforts of organic, attached and supporting forces.

In particular, a self-propelled artillery battalion under the command of Cpt V. Stolyarenko was attached to the battalion in question. As we know, self-propelled artillery battalions have great maneuvering capabilities and firing range. The commander has the opportunity to quickly concentrate the fire on the most important targets. It would seem that such a reliable means should be effectively used to complete the mission. But the battalion commander was in no hurry to make use of it. The artillery crews advanced behind the battle formation of the advancing troops for a long time, and were not assigned a single task.

What does this indicate? Above all it says that other combined-arms commanders lack skill in controlling artillery fire. For example, we are very familiar with the requirements of the governing documents that under the guidance of combined-arms commanders, regular drills in controlling artillery fire must be conducted with the participation of the subunit. But when we asked Major V. Palienko and Captains V. Balyshhev and A. Yatsenko, how often they had such drills, we got a vague answer.

Deficiencies in the use of artillery subunits were also noted in other similar training exercises.

The motorized rifle battalion, commanded by Cpt V. Govoryshenko, is considered one of the best in the regiment. And in fact, during a live-fire exercise the personnel showed high-level tactical-firing training. But the officers did not manage the attached and supporting subunits as well as they could have.

These and other instances indicate that in several subunits practice in integrating exercises and working out training problems with allowances for the forces' growing fire capabilities is underestimated.

To deeply analyze the results of inspections, draw correct conclusions and outline concrete ways to improve the training process--this is now the primary task.

CSO: 1801/30

GROUND FORCES

ASSAULT LANDING EXERCISE DESCRIBED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Oct 84 p 1

[Article by Maj V. Astaf'yev of the Red Banner Baltic Military District: "In a Landing"]

[Text] The intelligence information showed that large obstacles had been set up by the "enemy" in the zone of advance of the motorized rifle troops.

Guards Sr Lt V. Solov'yev, the commander of a motorized rifle company in the reserve, was urgently summoned to the command post.

"Your company with an attached combat engineer platoon is assigned to make a heliborne assault with the mission of destroying the 'enemy' obstacles...."

Merely from the tone of the commander's voice, the guards senior lieutenant realized that the mission was not an easy one. But during those first few minutes he still did not know all the details.

Solov'yev left the commander, thinking out variations of the forthcoming actions. During the year, the company had already carried out similar combat training missions. The officers and their subordinates had definite skills. But still Solov'yev was concerned as the success of all the subunits involved in this exercise would largely depend upon the company's actions.

In truth, he was calmed by the fact that Guards Sr Lt A. Doronichev would head one of the groups. In the Guards Proletarian Moscow-Minsk Motorized Rifle Division this officer was known as a most experienced specialist. He had personally deactivated 6,000 bombs, shells and mines left on Baltic land after the war. Always smart and looking like a commander, even by his experience he instilled confidence in his subordinates.

The officers met at the helicopter landing pad. Used to being alerted first, the combat engineers were already ready.

"First time in a landing?" Solov'yev asked them.

"The first."

"How do you feel? Excited?"

"A bit..."

Seemingly this was not a binding discussion. But in fact, Guards Sr Lt Solov'yev, as always in preparing to carry out a mission, carefully weighed the forces and capabilities and ascertained the moral-combat mood of the personnel. This would be needed there, in the "enemy" rear, when battle commenced against the cover subunit. He should be confident of his subordinates just as of himself....

In taking off, the helicopters headed to the landing area. With great precision, the helicopter crews under the command of Military Pilot 1st Class Capt Yu. Nikishin arrived at the designated quadrant.

The first platoon to land was that under the command of Guards Sr Lt A. Cherkas. By a quick dash, the forward group took up an advantageous position for supporting the landing of the party's main forces.

Having clarified the mission for the platoons in the field, Guards Sr Lt Solov'yev quickly led the company to the designated line. Now by a decisive attack from different directions they were to destroy the "enemy" cover.

The combat engineers moved ahead. They made passageways through the mixed minefields. Having crossed the obstacle, the motorized rifle troops deployed in an extended line and rushed the objective. The closer they were to the target, the stronger the "enemy's" resistance. Guards Sr Lt Solov'yev realized that the main thing now was to break through to the objective's control post. He aimed the brunt of the attack at this.

The defenders endeavored to check the attack of the motorized rifle troops by stationary firing and counterattacks. But shots were heard from their rear and the exploding of hand grenades. This was a platoon under the command of Guards Sr Lt D. Podospeyev which, having made a maneuver, attacked the "enemy" by surprise. And here the procedures of close combat mastered by the motorized rifle troops in special exercises came in handy. The high tactical-weapons and physical training of the motorized rifle troops determined the outcome of combat.

Now it was up to the combat engineers. Guards Sr Lt Doronichev along with Guards Jr Sgt O. Borisov and Guards Pvt A. Garfullin quickly set the explosive device.

The announcement of the explosion in the area of the objective was received with special satisfaction at the command post. The mission set for the assault force had been carried out. And this would be a substantial statement by the men of success in the competition and their specific contribution to carrying out their obligations in the final stage of the training year.

10272

CSO: 1801/53

GROUND FORCES

OFFICER LACK OF INITIATIVE IN TRAINING EXERCISE ASSAILED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Nov 84 p 2

[Article by Col G. Zorin, senior officer of the Directorate of Combat Training for the Red Banner Far Eastern Military District: "An Incentive for Creativity"]

[Text] Under conditions close to actual combat, and precisely under such conditions, the skills of the subunits and units are truly tested out and one can see particularly well who is capable of what. No exception in this regard was the exercise which we conducted.

...The motorized rifle battalion under the command of Lt Col P. Kraft received the mission of preventing the landing of an amphibious force on the coast. The battalion commander sent out a company under the command of Sr Lt K. Alikberov to the threatened sector. In taking this decision, he was confident that the young officer would be able to carry out the set mission as in the previous exercises Sr Lt Alikberov had repeatedly shown high tactical skill. In this instance, though, help would be given him if necessary by the fire of the attached artillery battalion.

But soon thereafter the situation became more complex: an "enemy" tactical airborne force was landed in the battalion's rear. This meant that the motorized rifle troops would have to repel the attack from different directions. The battalion commander realized that the forces at his disposal were not sufficient and that he would have to rely not on numbers but on skill.... And he began to seek out the best plan of action.

The intelligence data showed that the "enemy" had just commenced loading the personnel and equipment on the landing craft. Hence there was still some time until the approach of the first wave of the amphibious landing. This could be used for destroying the airborne assault force and regrouping the forces.

This was done. With a portion of the forces, having destroyed the airborne tactical force, the battalion with all its fire power descended on the "enemy" which was attempting to attack from the sea the positions of the company under the command of Sr Lt Alikberov. Then by a decisive counterattack the landing force was thrown back into the sea.

In exercises it is extremely essential to allow people an opportunity on the limited area of a range to gain the fullest notion of the nature of modern combat. In the given instance, in my view, the exercise was instructive both for the officers as well as for all the battalion personnel. The creative approach by the officers of the regimental staff to working out its plan made it possible to minimize artificiality and to create a situation which impelled the men to show initiative and to seek out nonstandard decisions.

In our practice there are many similar examples showing how much depends upon the ability of the commanders and staffs to bring the training process as close as possible to the conditions of real combat. And it is characteristic that the more complex a situation is in an exercise and the harder it is for its participants, the more decisiveness there is in their actions and the more apparent the moral-combat qualities developed in them in the process of daily exercises and drill and the study of combat experience under different conditions.

For example, the following episode comes to mind. The motorized rifle battalion under the command of Maj A. Sebik had to break through the "enemy" defenses and support the committing of the second echelon subunits to battle. Even in the course of the offensive it was clear that the defending troops had guessed the plan of the opposing side and had concentrated their main efforts on the threatened sector. As soon as the motorized rifle troops had deployed in the combat line, intense barrage fire was set up in front of them. It was difficult to escape from under this fire. But still the battalion commander was able to do this. Drawing on his combat experience, he employed a smoke-screen. Under the cover of the smokescreen, the motorized rifle troops succeeded with minimum "losses" in crossing the dangerous zone and breaching the "enemy" battle formations.

Also coming to mind was the nighttime combat in which Maj A. Belokamenskiy employed a nonstandard configuration of battle formation and this made it possible for his subordinates in a difficult tactical situation to be successful in a clash against superior "enemy" forces. In employing the infantry combat vehicles in the intervals between the platoons, Maj Belokamenskiy was able to provide a fire density which confused the defending troops on the number of attackers.

But, unfortunately, there are also facts of a different sort. Far from all the officers, as the final inspection showed, in the exercises and training showed creativity and initiative in carrying out suddenly arising missions. And here it is not always a question of a lack of the required knowledge.

We became acquainted with Lt R. Gariyev before leaving for the field. The company commanders in the classroom were solving a tactical problem. Lt Gariyev was among the first to do this. His solutions, both the main ones as well as for the inputs of the leader of the tactical drill, merited attention. One could feel that the young officer had good knowledge, he had assimilated well the provisions of the field manuals and had gained the habits of staff work.

This impression was also confirmed by the actual actions of the lieutenant in preparing for an offensive.

Then combat started. The motorized rifle troops rather easily took the first "enemy" trench. It turned out that the enemy personnel and weapons on the forward defensive edge had been securely neutralized during the fire softening up for the attack. Good conditions existed for the company. In order to make maximum use of this factor for exploiting the success, it was essential to quickly alter the battle formation. But the company commander did not do this. The motorized rifle troops continued to attack in a combat line and this slowed down the rate of their advance.

Later on Lt Gariyev had an opportunity to covertly bring the company into the "enemy" flank. But here again he acted according to the previously elaborated plan. One can only surmise what had happened to the tactical boldness of the company commander which had been so apparent in the classroom exercises.

Incidentally, as it later became apparent, there was no reason to be surprised. The young officer explained his passivity by nothing more...than a desire to follow the regulations: supposedly if there were no deviations from the requirements of the field manual in the company's actions then there could be no complaints against the commander.

What can one say about this? Yes, it can be said that there were no obvious deviations from the requirements of the field manual in the company commander's actions during training combat. But he acted without considering the rapidly changing tactical situation. And without this, as is known, in modern combat one cannot count on success.

In analyzing the reasons for the failures of Lt Gariyev and certain other officers in carrying out combat training missions, one must conclude that they are related primarily to flaws in the organization of combat training, in the leadership of the training process both in the system of commander training and in the units as a whole. For example, they act correctly in the regiment where Lt Gariyev serves in paying close attention to studying the field manuals. Here they widely employ such a form of instruction as a tactical quiz for the officers. But this, as we can see, is not sufficient. Particularly for young officers who frequently lack primarily tactical skills in organizing combat in the field and in controlling the men and weapons in rapidly changing combat. They need more active forms of instruction by which they would actually learn to fully carry out those missions which can arise in combat.

The period of preparing for the new training year is a suitable time for precise planning of such training. But no matter how well the planned exercises for the officers are organized, they are not sufficient in order to teach them to fight in a modern manner. Here success, as the inspection has shown, is achieved where the independent studies of the officers are better organized and where an atmosphere of a creative attitude toward the job and mutual exactingness has been established in the officer collective and is constantly maintained and where proper concern is shown for introducing advanced experience and improving the physical training facilities.

We all know how much depends on us, the specialists of the district combat training directorate, in carrying out this range of tasks. It must be said straightaway that we have not yet achieved a situation where each exercise or

training conducted in the troops with our participation has served for all levels of officers as true schooling in creativity and initiative. What must be done in order to give a more practical focus to commander training? How can we increase the effectiveness of the exercises by involving various men and weapons? Whose experience can be recommended for the commanders, political bodies and staffs in order to avoid the flaws in the tactical and weapons training of the unit personnel?

These and other questions which have been posed for us by the final inspection are awaiting their resolution. And success in this matter, as in any other, of course is inconceivable without creativity and initiative. The decisions of the October (1984) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee orient us to such an approach to the matter.

10272

CSO: 1801/53

AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES

NEED FOR GREATER THRIFT IN FLIGHT OPERATIONS, TRAINING

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Dec 84 p 2

[Article by Guards Lt Col S. Solarev, chief of political department, Nth Air Regiment: "High Efficiency for Each Mission"]

[Text] The powerful roar of the jet engines did not fall silent above the airfield. Some airplanes took off into the sky and others returned after accomplishment of the flight assignment.

The pilots of our regiment passed an important examination--they accomplished the bombing of small targets. Understanding the difficulty of the mission, they all worked with great diligence. Initially, the work proceeded irreproachably: the observance of takeoff times was strict, the targets were hit accurately, and landings were accomplished without reproof. First-class military pilots Guards Lieutenant Colonel V. Yevdokimov, Guards Major Yu. Zhuravskiy, Guards Captain V. Borisenko, and other officers demonstrated increased skill.

But nevertheless, as they say, they did not get by without a fly in the ointment. Guards Captain K. Kurochkin returned to the airfield with bombs on board. The pilot stated that the release system was defective. In fact, it was shown that he forgot to turn on one of the toggle switches.

When this incident was analyzed, individual officers attempted to mitigate the guilt of Guards Captain Kurochkin. "It happens to everyone," they said. "A pilot made an error and, as is known, not one person is immune to this. No accident occurred...."

Correct. There was no flight accident. But let us ask ourselves the following question: what was the cost of the "blank" sortie by Guards Captain Kurochkin?

The pilot expended several tons of fuel and used up some of the equipment's service life. In so doing, neither aerial training nor firing and tactical skill were improved. On the contrary, the failure aroused doubts in the pilot concerning the aircraft's combat capabilities and his own strength.

Unfortunately, this is not an isolated incident. Due to the personal fault of the aviators, the missions of Guards Captain A. Volodchenko and Guards Senior Lieutenant S. Lyushakov proved to be "blanks." The former did not fly the airplane

to the range due to the incorrect determination of the flight course, and the latter committed an error when turning on the equipment. When we calculated how much fuel was expended on these three missions, the figure proved to be highly impressive.

It was necessary to remind these officers of the obligations which they had assumed for the economy of fuels and lubricants and the service life of combat equipment: there is such a point in the personal obligations of each pilot.

However, it is not enough to assume lofty obligations. It is necessary to achieve the planned goal stubbornly, overcoming any difficulties. This was discussed at an open party meeting where the question of the necessity to increase demandingness toward the aviators' observance of flight laws and rules and organization and order in preparation for flight and for the precise accomplishment of the assigned missions was discussed. For as was learned by a member of the unit methodological council, Guards Major N. Vasil'yev, during an analysis of the reasons for the mistake which had been committed, at times the same Guards Captain Kurochkin missed drills on the simulator and prepared for flights carelessly. This occurred in front of the squadron commander and his deputies, but for some reason they looked through their fingers at such a violation of flight rules. The lack of the commanders' demandingness dampened the ardor of their subordinates. Of what struggle for economy and thrift can there be talk here?

Of course, we could not put up with such a state of affairs. A businesslike talk on the personal responsibility of the aviators for improving combat training took place in the political department where the state of affairs in the squadron commanded by Guards Major A. Kuz'kin was discussed. At one time, organizational work in directing competition and monitoring the accomplishment of obligations was weakened in the subunit. In particular, they stopped holding strictly responsible those through whose fault fuel and the service life of aviation equipment were expended to no purpose and who did not accomplish planned exercises with the first attempt. This was stated to the squadron commander. He was advised to use the experience of the regiment's leaders and train the subunit's personnel with it.

To render assistance to commanders and political officers of the subunits we brought in the unit methodological council which regularly studies, generalizes, and disseminates the experience of the best. The members of the methodological council, Guards Lieutenant Colonel V. Yevdokimov and Guards Majors G. Zakhar-chuk and N. Vasil'yev, are responsible for the timely dissemination of leading procedures and methods in the aviators' work with the combat employment of equipment. Let us say that Guards Captain V. Lychagin was able to become a master of bombing strikes in a difficult tactical and aerial situation and this do not go unnoticed by them. Lychagin's experience was comprehensively studied. Clear recommendations were worked out on its basis, following which subunit commanders began to train the flight personnel in one of the most reliable methods for the accurate destruction of ground targets.

In order to eliminate forced repeats of training exercises and save dozens of tons of aviation fuel and other material resources, each mission is now first worked out on the ground. This did not please everyone at first; they said that

we are shifting time for nothing. Practice showed the opposite: the one who, not sparing strength, "flew" on the simulator and studied using the "dismounted dry run" method went through the program with minimum expenditures in the air and accomplished the missions with the first run.

Propagandizing the experience of the competition leaders provided both an indoctrinational and mobilizing effect: people saw how the search for the new is encouraged and how those who are constantly concerned for the combat readiness of the unit and for the economy of state resources are lauded to the skies. Inspired by the example of those who were up front, the aviators of the regiment display genuine selflessness in soldierly labor, have a conscientious attitude toward military and state property, and economize in both large and small.

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure and the ruble begins with a kopeck.... We try to instill these notions in each serviceman from the first days of service in the unit. We conduct talks on the importance of the careful expenditure of material resources and the savings of fuel and lubricants and electric power at party and Komsomol meetings and on conferences and lessons. I believe that graphic agitation would also render great assistance in the development of competition and the struggle for thrift and economy. For example, displays can be drawn up in groups and flights which reflect the specific indices of each aviator. Unfortunately, there is still no time for it. The party's instructions on the necessity to initiate a movement for the reduction of various losses and waste materials as well as unproductive expenditures and for the eradication of mismanagement and squandering should become the leit-motif of our work in the struggle for economy and thrift. And we should operate more by personal example. At a meeting with workers of the "Sickle and Hammer" Moscow metallurgical plant Comrade K. U. Chernenko said: "Enough correct words have been stated on the necessity to save metal, fuel, energy, and other resources. But it is far from always that they are backed up by specific deeds. Only the initiative and personal contribution of each one...in the conduct of a course toward strengthening an economy regime everywhere and in everything will provide tangible results."

It cannot be said that this struggle was not waged in the regiment in preceding years. But now it has acquired a more purposeful nature. It was led by the communists of the subunits and the people's controllers headed by Guards Major V. Zakharov. The unit's group of people's controllers includes experienced pilots, navigators, technicians, and mechanics. They systematically conduct raids to check the correctness of servicing and operation of airplanes and the consumption of fuels and lubricants and other materials. The people's controllers also studied the reasons for "blank" missions. It was established that half of them occurred through the personal fault of the flight personnel, more exactly due to the pilots' ignorance of the basic provisions of the instructions and poor quality preparation for flights. And if formerly the insufficient preparation of the aviators for flights, which did not entail coarse mistakes in piloting technique, remained unpunished, now the question has become one of the preconditions for a flight accident.

High demandingness and exactingness for the precise observance of flight laws and rules and the active search for reserves to raise the combat readiness

of the subunits and the skill of the aviators permit eliminating forced repeated sorties for the very same exercise from our practice in the new training year. And we should achieve this even more energetically. The price of each of them is surely very great.

6367

CSO: 1801/84

AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES

NIGHT HELICOPTER OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Dec 84 p 1

[Article by Sr Lt V. Lavrenyuk, Group of Soviet Forces in Germany: "Helicopters Attack at Night"]

[Text] According to intelligence data, the "enemy" secretly accumulated forces to launch a counterblow. He accomplished displacement at night under conditions of limited visibility. The mission was assigned to the helicopter personnel: to launch a strike against the "enemy's" concentration area. In which regard, by surprise, at night, and in the depth of the defense when the opposing side will begin to regroup.

The squadron commander, First-Class Military Pilot Lieutenant Colonel V. Vorob'yev, assembled the aviators in the tactical flight classroom at the designated time. He read the helicopter personnel into the tactical situation, determined the route of flight and, from reconnaissance data, defined in detail the disposition of the "enemy" air defense weapons and methods to overcome them.

A curtain of fog descended on the ground in the evening. The flickering of the stars hardly broke through it.

The crews took their places in the helicopters. The flight commanders look over the route of flight on the map once more and mentally work out the forthcoming actions.

A fresh breeze blew in with the onset of darkness and scattered the fog. The airfield is filled with the powerful roar of operating engines. The rotary-wing machines taxi out to the takeoff runway. They climb into the sky at short intervals one after the other and the helicopters depart for the range.

The first to receive the commander's "good" for the takeoff were the two crews commanded by Second-Class Military Pilots Captains V. Grachev and V. Popov. Their mission--to determine precisely the location of the "enemy" concentration area and illuminate the terrain above the targets with flares.

Why did the squadron commander send namely these officers to the range first? Of course, he considered their skill, experience, and high piloting technique. But something else played the main role--both commanders have great experience in night flights and under conditions of limited visibility. Not so long ago

the wearer of the Orders of the Red Star and "For Service to the Motherland in the Soviet Armed Forces" 3d degree, Captain Grachev, and wearer of the Order of the Red Star, Captain Popov, served as members of the limited contingent of Soviet troops in Afghanistan.

...The helicopters are flying at a low altitude, along a strictly assigned route. It was selected so as to ensure maximum flight secrecy--along gullies behind slopes which are reverse slopes to the "enemy," behind a forest, and by-passing air defense zones. Where air defense could not be bypassed, the helicopter personnel execute maneuvers to counter antiaircraft weapons.

It is difficult to fly a rotary-wing aircraft at low altitude at night. There are no reference points which are customary and clearly visible during the day. And here improved navigation instruments, firm practical skills, experience, and knowledge come to our assistance.

Captain Grachev was the first to reach the assigned point. Emerging above the dark wall of a forest, the helicopter "zoomed" and the crew released an illuminating flare. It blazed up and illuminated everything around. Turning away, the officer saw the tanks and armored personnel carriers which had concentrated for a morning counterattack. The next illuminating flares also hung above the armored targets. Accomplishing the mission, the pilots set their course for the airfield.

At this time, the helicopter under the command of Captain V. Bernatov reaches the brightly illuminated spot on the range. He gives the command to pilot-operator Lieutenant A. Vikulin to open fire. The young officer is accomplishing the launching of missiles under night conditions for the first time. Naturally, he is nervous. But then the first missile plunges into an "enemy" tank, then a second pass, a third.... One-hundred percent hit!

Without entering the illuminated zone the helicopter lays on the return course with a turn. And at this time First Class Military Pilot and best flight commander Captain N. Shafigullin brings his machine to the "enemy's" concentration site. The experienced officer who has been awarded the Order of the Red Star finds the targets quickly. The fiery trains of missiles separate from his helicopter. They swiftly take off in the direction of the tanks and pierce them....

The squadron completely accomplished the mission. The fiery strikes from the air inflicted tangible losses on the "enemy" and frustrated his counterattack.

6367

CSO: 1801/104

AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES

OUTSTANDING PVO REGIMENT OUTLINES GOALS

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Nov 84 p 1

[Article: "Reliably Stand Guard Over the Fatherland's Aerial Borders"]

[Text] The Guards Putilovsko-Kirovskiy Order of Lenin Surface-to-Air Missile Regiment commanded by Guards Lieutenant Colonel A. Kurdenkov is serving vigilantly in guarding the motherland's aerial borders. Created at the dawn of Soviet power, the regiment smashed the enemies of the revolution on the fronts of the Civil War and trod a glorious combat path along the fiery roads of the Great Patriotic War. The Guards-missilemen are sacredly revering and adding to the combat traditions of their frontline brother-soldiers.

The past training year became a significant landmark on the path to new heights of soldierly skill and the strengthening of discipline, order, and organization for the personnel. All combat training missions have been accomplished with high results and socialist obligations have been successfully accomplished. The regiment achieved the title of excellent. The training and coordination of the combat sections were lifted to a new stage and the number of masters of military affairs and highly-rated specialists grew.

A new surge of strength and the striving to move steadily forward and achieve more were caused in the personnel by the decisions of the October (1984) plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the theses and conclusions in the speech of the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Council of Ministers, Comrade K. U. Chernenko, at a session of the CPSU Central Committee's Politburo.

The men of the regiment perceived with inspiration the patriotic initiative of the personnel in the missile unit commanded by Lieutenant Colonel T. Mayakov, which was approved by the Soviet Minister of Defense, Marshal of the Soviet Union D. F. Ustinov, to initiate army-wide socialist competition for a worthy greeting for the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War and for the forthcoming 27th CPSU Congress.

At a general meeting of the personnel which took place recently and where socialist obligations for the new training year were discussed, Guards Lieutenant Colonel N. Shestavin, Guards Captains M. Denisov and I. Dragolyub, Guards Senior Lieutenant S. Shulepov, Guards Sergeant V. Vas'kovskiy, and others who spoke called on their fellow-servicemen to struggle with even greater activity,

energy, and initiative to raise vigilance, combat readiness, and the level of military skill in every possible way. The Guards-missilemen turned to all men of the Air Defense Forces with the call to join actively in socialist competition under the slogan, "Our selfless soldierly labor for the 40th anniversary of the great victory and the 27th CPSU Congress!"

Appeal of the Personnel of the Guards Putilovsko-Kirovskiy Order of Lenin
Surface-to-Air Missile Regiment to the Men of the Air Defense Forces

Combat comrades and friends!

Our country is at the threshold of important events. A joyful and bright holiday is approaching--the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War. Preparations for the forthcoming 27th CPSU Congress are being initiated everywhere. Under the tested leadership of the Communist Party the Soviet people and the men of the Soviet Armed Forces are laboring on the accomplishment of the tasks mapped out by the 26th Party Congress and subsequent plenums of the CPSU Central Committee. The peace-loving foreign policy course worked out by the party is being implemented firmly and consistently.

Approving with all our hearts and supporting unanimously the wise foreign and domestic policy of the CPSU and the Soviet state, we deeply realize how difficult and dangerous the present international situation is. The actions of the reactionary imperialist forces are becoming more and more aggressive. The United States and its NATO allies are speeding up military preparations, creating crisis situations and kindling explosive hot spots in the world, coarsely interfering in the internal affairs of other states, and trying to change the correlation of forces in the world and achieve military superiority over the USSR and the socialist countries.

Under these conditions, we see as our filial duty to the motherland a further rise in vigilance and combat readiness which would exclude any possibility for the aggressor to catch us unawares.

Comparing our deeds and plans with the party's requirements and with the labor achievements of the Soviet people and clarifying profoundly the tasks posed by the Defense Minister for the 1985 training year, we call upon the personnel of Air Defense Forces to join actively in the socialist competition for a worthy greeting for the 27th CPSU Congress and the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War.

Having thoroughly analyzed the state of affairs and comprehensively weighed our capabilities, we are assuming the following socialist obligations:

--To continue to labor selflessly on accomplishing the requirements of the party and the instructions of the CPSU Central Committee's General Secretary and the Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Comrade K. U. Chernenko, concerning the strengthening of the Armed Forces combat potential, mastering the combat equipment and armaments which have been entrusted to us, strengthening discipline and organization, and raising vigilance and combat readiness. To reduce the time to prepare the regiment for action by 10 percent. To perform operational readiness duties in a quality manner. To consolidate and multiply results obtained. To confirm the title of excellent unit.

--To follow the Lenin behests steadfastly always and in everything. To realize them persistently in close connection with the tasks being accomplished. To study deeply Marxist-Leninist theory and the heroic history of the country, the Leninist party, and the Soviet Armed Forces. To instill in ourselves ideological conviction, boundless devotion to the motherland, class hatred toward its enemies, political vigilance, and loyalty to military duty and the revolutionary, combat, and labor traditions of our party, army, and people. To propagandize broadly [words illegible] exploits of Soviet servicemen, Air Defense Forces, and frontline fellow-soldiers. To mark the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory by selfless labor and initiate active work on preparations for a worthy greeting for the 27th CPSU Congress.

--To accomplish training plans with quality and in full volume. To ensure the high effectiveness of training. To conduct lessons and drills in a spirit of rivalry, without simplifications and indulgences. All officers and warrant officers [praporshchik] are to raise their methodological training and to introduce into practice purposefully leading experience in the training and indoctrination of subordinates. To attain excellent indices in all basic types of combat and political training. To accomplish all combat-training missions with good and excellent grades and to conduct the regimental tactical exercise with live firing with a grade of "excellent." To raise 40 percent experts of combat and political training in the regiment. To see that 75 percent of the servicemen master allied specialties and ensure complete interchangeability in the organs of the political directorate and the combat sections.

--To continue persistently to master new combat equipment and armament. To operate materiel competently and maintain it in exemplary condition. To conduct prescribed maintenance work and other types of maintenance in a quality manner. To achieve 100-percent proficiency ratings for the personnel to include the training of 19 masters of combat qualifications and 75 percent specialists with a higher proficiency rating. To introduce the soldiers of the new call-up into formation in minimum time. To develop military-technical creativity and improve the training-material base. To ensure the regular functioning of technical study groups in each subunit. To submit and introduce 60 innovator suggestions during the year.

--To strengthen organization and discipline in every possible way. To struggle for the absolute accomplishment of moral-ethical standards of behavior by each serviceman and to carry high the honor and dignity of the Soviet serviceman. To treasure friendship and military comradeship. To have an exemplary outer appearance and military bearing and actively maintain prescribed order.

--To improve our physical tempering. To raise the quality of mass sports work even higher. To raise 92 percent rated sportsmen and 75 percent wearers of the VSK [military sports complex] badge.

--To have a careful attitude toward military and the people's property. To save 10 percent of the resources of radio engineering equipment and 6 percent of electric power, fuels and lubricants, and propellents. To collect and turn over to the state 60 tons of scrap metal.

--To maintain service and housing areas and the training-material base in excellent condition and struggle for a post of high culture.

--In preparing for the 27th CPSU Congress, the unit's communists pledge to provide a personal example in service and discipline. They will all become rated specialists and 75 percent--masters of combat qualifications and increased proficiency rating.

Komsomols and young servicemen are assuming the obligation to persistently implement the decisions of the 19th Komsomol Congress and the recommendations of the 5th Army-Wide Conference of Secretaries of Komsomol Organizations and to see that each Komsomol is an example in service, training, and military discipline.

We challenge to socialist competition the surface-to-air missile regiment commanded by Colonel A. Vyrvich.

We realize perfectly well the tremendous responsibility which we are assuming in stepping forth as the initiator of socialist competition in the Air Defense Forces.

Each of us is filled with the resolve to keep our word with honor, accomplish the obligations which have been assumed completely, and greet the 40th anniversary of the victory in the Great Patriotic War and the 27th CPSU Congress in a worthy manner.

We will always defend the security of our beloved motherland in a reliable manner and will stand vigilant guard over its aerial borders!

6367

CSO: 1801/70

AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES

OUTSTANDING GUARDS AVIATION BOMB REGIMENT OUTLINES GOALS

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Nov 84 p 1

[Article: "Toward the Heights of Flying Skill"]

[Text] The personnel of the Guards Red Banner Bomber Regiment commanded by Guards Colonel A. Tsar'kov completely accomplished the plan for combat and political training and socialist obligations in the last training year. The men achieved a significant increase in the quality of combat training. The level of aerial and firing training of the crews and subunits increased noticeably in the regiment. The ranks of the experts were replenished. There have been no flight accidents here for 14 years.

Participating in the national movement for a worthy greeting for the 40th anniversary of the great victory, preparing to greet the 27th CPSU Congress with successes in soldierly labor, and considering the increased military danger in connection with the militaristic preparations of the United States and NATO, the Guards-aviators, just as all men of the Soviet Armed Forces, are persistently seeking ways for a further rise in the effectiveness of combat training.

A new surge of strength and energy was caused among the aviators by the speech of the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Comrade K. U. Chernenko, at the regular session of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and his word that the requirements for strengthening the country's defensive capability have been properly considered in the plan for 1985.

Discussing the tasks for the forthcoming training year in the crews and subunits the pilots, navigators, engineers, technicians, and junior aviation specialists outlined high goals at their regimental meeting.

Speaking at the meeting were the senior navigator of the air regiment, Guards Lieutenant Colonel V. Dragunov, the deputy squadron commander for political affairs, Guards Major N. Titov, the chief of the group for prescribed maintenance work, Guards Captain A. Zhornik, group technician Guards Warrant Officer [praporshchik] I. Vaydich, aircraft mechanic A. Morev, and others. The aviators turned to all Air Force personnel with the call to respond to the missilemen's appeal to the men of the Armed Forces and they called for initiation of socialist competition under the slogan, "Our selfless soldierly labor for the 40th anniversary of the great victory and the 27th CPSU Congress."

Appeal of the Personnel of the Guards Red Banner Bomber Regiment to the Men of the Air Force

Dear Comrades!

We, the men of the Guards Red Banner Bomber Regiment, in performing our constitutional duty and realizing profoundly the complexity of the contemporary international situation, unanimously support and ardently approve the domestic and foreign policy of our own Communist Party and the activity of the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet government in strengthening the defensive capability of our country and the states of the socialist commonwealth. We, the defenders of the fatherland, perceived as a battle order and as a guide to action the instructions and conclusions contained in the speech of the CPSU Central Committee's General Secretary and the Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet's Presidium, Comrade K. U. Chernenko, at the regular session of the CPSU Central Committee's Politburo.

The sharp aggravation of the international situation through the fault of imperialism headed by the United States, the striving to destroy the military-strategic balance in the world, and attempts to achieve superiority over the countries of the socialist commonwealth force us to labor with an even greater straining of strength, persistently raise political vigilance and combat readiness, tirelessly improve aerial training, and strengthen discipline and organization.

We are serving under the regiment's Guards Battle Standard and are striving to carry in a worthy manner the baton of the hero-brother-soldiers who participated in many battles of the Great Patriotic War. Our unit has been awarded the pennant of the USSR Minister of Defense for courage and military valor.

On entering the new training year and ardently responding to the initiative of the missilemen which was approved by the Soviet Minister of Defense, Marshal of the Soviet Union D. F. Ustinov, the personnel are joining in the army-wide socialist competition under the slogan, "Our selfless soldierly labor for the 40th anniversary of the great victory and the 27th CPSU Congress!" and are filled with resolve to accomplish in a quality manner the decisions of the 26th Party Congress and the subsequent plenums of the CPSU Central Committee and the requirements of the Soviet Minister of Defense concerning the further strengthening of the Armed Forces' might and their training for the conduct of active combat operations in repelling aggression, from wherever it may arise.

Analyzing comprehensively the capabilities and reserves and moved by the patriotic striving to accomplish our military and international duty in an exemplary manner, the men of the regiment assume the following obligations:

--To ensure the unit's constant readiness to accomplish all assigned missions under the difficult conditions of an air and ground situation. To achieve the regiment's minimum readiness times for takeoff. To mold in all categories of personnel lofty moral and combat qualities and the capability for battle with a strong, comprehensively trained enemy. To master aviation equipment and weapons skillfully, raise the level of combat training of the flight crews, utilize in full measure the combat capabilities of aviation complexes and

armament systems of airplanes, and achieve the surpassing of the normative requirements and unconditional accomplishment of the mission, "Each missile, bomb, and shell in the target with the first attack." To raise tactical flying skill, considering tactics to be the main weapon ensuring victory in battle. To achieve the highest utilization factor of aviation equipment on flights and effectiveness of each flight relief. To have an average grade of no lower than 4.6 in all types of flight training. To accomplish the missions of tactical flying exercises of the squadron and regiment only with grades of "good" and "excellent."

--In accordance with the lines of the June (1983) and subsequent plenums of the CPSU Central Committee, tirelessly to raise the ideological and political maturity of each serviceman. To continue the deep study of the Lenin ideological and theoretical heritage and struggle for each one's substantial contribution to the implementation of the decisions of the 26th Party Congress. To work out an active life's position and instill in ourselves the best qualities of the Soviet serviceman. In the course of preparations for the 40th anniversary of the great victory, to raise to a new, higher level the heroic-patriotic indoctrination of the aviators in the glorious revolutionary, combat, and labor traditions of the Soviet people and the Armed Forces, develop a sense of pride in belonging to the Air Force, and augment the glorious traditions of the frontline fighters.

--To utilize socialist competition more completely to raise the quality and effectiveness of combat training and to spread and introduce the experience of the leaders more widely. To evaluate what has been attained and final results based on principle and strictly. To display constant concern for raising experts of combat and political training. To have 66 percent expert subunits and crews in the regiment by the end of the training year. To ensure the vanguard role of the communists and Komsomols in the accomplishment of socialist obligations and party and service duty. To win the title of expert regiment.

--Constantly to improve engineering and technical training. To be concerned for the accomplishment of the requirement, "For contemporary equipment--a higher level of its mastery." To prepare the aviation complexes for each flight with a high guarantee and reliably and to operate them competently and without error. To ensure the clear organization of flights and their safety on the basis of firm knowledge and the clear accomplishment of the requirements of the laws for flying service and the observance of the rules for the operation and preparation of aviation equipment. To improve flight-methodological and preventive maintenance work and make more complete use of recorders and simulation equipment. To improve the style in servicing aviation equipment. Constantly to improve the procedure for operation-by-operation monitoring of the completeness and quality of preventive maintenance work. By the end of the training year, to have at least 80 percent expert technical groups, sections, and airplanes and 80 percent 1st- and 2nd-class aviation specialists.

--To build up and improve the training-material base. To initiate military-scientific and innovational work more widely and to propagate the experience of masters of military affairs. During the year, to work out and introduce 35 innovator suggestions. To intensify the economy regime and expend fuels and lubricants and material and energy resources carefully. To reduce by five percent expenditures of the reserve of ground support means for each hour of accrued flying time.

--To strengthen discipline, organization, and law and order in every possible way. To struggle for high performance and an exemplary external appearance and not permit violations of the standards of communist ethics and morals. To conduct active work in rallying the troop collectives. To increase their role and responsibility for the honor of their subunit and unit. To strengthen combat friendship and comradeship.

--To struggle for the transformation of the military post to a post of exemplary public order and high culture. Persistently to increase the physical tempering of the personnel and improve mass-cultural and sports work. By the end of the training year, to see that 93 percent of the personnel become rated sportsmen and 87 percent--badge-holders of the VSK [military sports complex].

In assuming these obligations, we challenge to socialist competition the personnel of the Red Banner bomber regiment commanded by Lieutenant Colonel V. Rummyantsev and we call upon all aviators of the Air Force to join actively in the struggle for a worthy greeting for the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War and the 27th CPSU Congress.

6367

CSO: 1801/70

AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES

AWARD TO LT GEN AVIA V.A. PONOMAREV

Moscow Krasnaya Zvezda in Russian 15 Dec 84 p 1

[Decree of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet on the award to Lieutenant General of Aviation V. A. Ponomarev of the Order "For Service to the Homeland in the Armed Forces of the USSR" Second Class]

[Text] For service in the Soviet Army and in connection with his sixtieth birthday Lieutenant General Ponomarev, Vadim Alekseyevich is awarded the order "For Service to the Homeland in the Armed Forces of the USSR" second class.

Chairman of the Presidium of the
USSR Supreme Soviet K. CHERNENKO.

Secretary of the Presidium of the
USSR Supreme Soviet T. MENTESHASHVILI.

Moscow, the Kremlin.
14 December 1984

CSO: 1801/91

AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES

BURYAT HELICOPTER FLIGHT COMMANDER NOTED

[Editorial Report] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian on 11 December 1984 carries on page 1 an article written by major I. Slivkin of the Red Banner Siberian Military District entitled "He Flies Excellently." The article congratulates Captain Innokentiy Zherbakov for the accomplishment of a complex flight mission under difficult weather conditions. The mission is not further detailed. However, the article goes on to point out briefly that Captain Zherbakov is the youngest son of a Buryat family of 14 children. The family lost the father early on. Nonetheless, the "Soviet state concerned itself for them." The result was that from the family came not only a helicopter flight commander, but workers, jurists and artists. Captain Zherbakov's flight has consistently received excellent evaluations over a series of years.

CSO: 1801/91

AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES

BRIEFS

GENERAL LOBAN'S 'UNTIMELY DEATH'--The command, the political department of the Main Staff and the Headquarters of the Air Defense Forces, friends and comrades with deep sorrow report the untimely death of Maj General Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Loban, a member of the Communist Party since 1951 and offer condolences to the family and friends. [Text] [Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Jan 85 p 5]

CSO: 1801/115

NAVAL FORCES

TRAINING GOALS OF MISSILE CRUISER 'SLAVA' OUTLINED

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Nov 84 p 1

[Article: "Stand Battle Watch Vigilantly"]

[Text] The missile cruiser "Slava" is one of the modern ships of the Soviet Navy, equipped with powerful weapons and first-class combat equipment. Its crew is continuing in a worthy manner the remarkable revolutionary and combat traditions of its predecessors--ships with the proud name "Slava" which were in the Russian and Soviet fleets at different times and which showed up heroically in battles at sea with the enemies of our motherland.

In the past training year, the cruiser passed with honor the test by a long cruise and distinguished itself on exercises and in the accomplishment of combat exercises. Socialist obligations were successfully accomplished by the seamen. Every other member of the crew became an expert of combat and political training and more than half the departments, services and parties, sections, and battle stations achieved the title of excellent. The missile cruiser "Slava" was declared excellent for successes attained.

During a visit to the ship in 1983, the Soviet Minister of Defense, Marshal of the Soviet Union D. F. Ustinov, directed the seamen toward the maximum effective use of the capabilities of weapons and combat equipment so as to destroy the enemy with the first crushing salvo, the first missile, and the first torpedo at maximum ranges, under the most difficult weather and navigation conditions, and under strong electronic countermeasures. The instructions of the Soviet Minister of Defense exerted and continue to exert a great mobilizing influence on the cruiser's personnel and stimulate them not to stop at what has been attained but to conduct a persistent search for reserves in combat improvement.

Directing all their feelings and thoughts toward their Communist Party and its Leninist Central Committee, the seamen are filled with resolve to mark the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War with new successes in military labor and to greet the 27th CPSU Congress in a worthy manner.

A meeting of the servicemen recently took place on the missile cruiser "Slava" at which the personnel outlined goals in socialist competition for the new training year on the basis of individual obligations. To raise vigilance and combat readiness tirelessly, to stand watch reliably on ocean and sea expanses,

to maintain constant alignment on the Victory Banner--their combat comrades were called upon for this by those who spoke at the meeting: the commander of the ship, Captain 2d Rank V. Krikunov, the secretary of the party committee, Captain 3d Rank V. Verba, the commander of the missile-gunners department, Captain 2d Rank N. Manchevskiy, the chief of the sonar crew, Warrant Officer D. Shatov, the commander of the machinist section, Petty Officer 2d Class V. Sidorov, and others.

The crew of the cruiser turned to the personnel of the Navy with the call to join actively in socialist competition under the slogan, "Our selfless military labor for the 40th anniversary of the great victory and the 27th CPSU Congress!"

Appeal of the Crew of the Missile Cruiser "Slava" of the Red Banner Black Sea Fleet to the Personnel of the Navy

Dear Comrades!

Our people are working with inspiration and with tremendous political enthusiasm on implementing the historic decisions of the 26th Party Congress and the October (1984) plenum of the CPSU Central Committee. In preparing for its next, 27th Congress, the Leninist party is concentrating the efforts of the workers on the successful completion of plans for the current year and the 11th Five-Year Plan. In the process of creating a communist society, the well-being of the Soviet people is rising steadily and a significant growth in the economic and defense potential of the motherland has been attained.

The confident step of developed socialism in the USSR and the great attractive force of its example are causing frantic anger among our class enemies. "We cannot fail to see the growing aggressiveness of imperialism and its attempts to achieve military superiority over the socialist commonwealth," stressed Comrade K. U. Chernenko at the regular session of the CPSU Central Committee's Politburo.

The dangerous preparations of the instigators of a new world war require of us, the fatherland's armed defenders, the highest vigilance and constant readiness for decisive actions under any situation. In accomplishing the Lenin behests, the instructions of the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and the Chairman of the Presidium of the CPSU's Supreme Soviet, Comrade K. U. Chernenko, and the requirements of the Soviet Minister of Defense in ensuring the reliable protection of the Soviet people's peaceful labor and the achievements of socialism we, the seamen of the missile cruiser "Slava" of the Red Banner Black Sea Fleet, just as all the men of the Armed Forces will persistently study what is required in contemporary battle with a technically equipped enemy. The motherland has given us everything necessary to restrain the aggressive aspirations of the imperialists, and it is our duty constantly to raise vigilance and combat readiness.

Each of us, members of the crew of the "Slava," is proud of his service on this modern missile cruiser and will strive to confirm with honor his loyalty to the heroic combat traditions of the Black Sea seamen and is doing everything for further improvement in gunnery and tactical training and the strengthening of discipline, order, and organization.

Weighing our capabilities thoroughly, we assume the following socialist obligations for the new training year:

--To study deeply the classics of Marxism-Leninism, master revolutionary theory persistently, and embody in practical deeds the Lenin behests to the Soviet servicemen, the decisions of the 26th Party Congress and subsequent plenums of the CPSU Central Committee, and the instructions of Comrade K. U. Chernenko on defense questions. To display high political consciousness and vigilance and inflexible loyalty to our patriotic and international duty. To raise the ideological tempering of the personnel. To succeed with grades of excellent and good in the system of Marxist-Leninist training of officers, political training of the warrant officers [michman], and on political lessons of the petty officers and seamen.

--In the year of the 40th anniversary of the great victory and active preparations for the 27th CPSU Congress, to confirm the title of excellent ship. To accomplish all missions of long cruises and combat exercises only with grades of excellent and good. Persistently to work out the actions of the combat sections to perfection. To reduce the times for bringing weapons and equipment to combat readiness by five percent and accomplish damage control standards with a grade of excellent. To eliminate preconditions for the breakdown of equipment. To ensure complete interchangeability at battle stations and constantly maintain in the subunits a spirit of competition and an attitude for high final results in competition. To develop actively the struggle for the title of best specialist of a department and the ship. By the end of the training year, to have 54 percent experts of combat and political training in the crew and achieve 100-percent proficiency ratings, including 74 percent 1st- and 2nd-class specialists.

--To make a comprehensive and deep study of the combat capabilities of the weapons and equipment entrusted to us and ensure their exemplary upkeep. To conduct prescribed maintenance work and other types of maintenance in a quality manner. To make military-technical propaganda and the movement under the slogan, "For new equipment--its mastery on a higher level," more active. To improve the training-material base constantly and introduce 15 innovators' suggestions. To have permanently operating technical study groups in each subunit.

--To ensure the vanguard role of the officers and warrant officers in training and service and raise the quality of their command, tactical, and special training. To see that 70 percent of the officers and 73 percent of the warrant officers become specialists with an increased proficiency rating. To raise 20 masters of military affairs by the end of the training year.

--The personnel are to know firmly and accomplish unconditionally the requirements of the oath, regulations, and the moral code of the builder of communism. Each serviceman is to have an exemplary external appearance and erect military bearing. To strengthen solidarity, discipline, and naval friendship and comradeship in every possible way, to treasure the honor and dignity of the Soviet seaman, and to be an example of high naval culture.

--To preserve sacredly loyalty to the revolutionary and combat traditions of the party, the Soviet people, and their Armed Forces, maintain alignment on the exploits of the frontline heroes, and add to the glory of our ship by selfless

military labor. In preparing a worthy greeting for the 27th CPSU Congress, the communists of the cruiser are filled with the resolve to head the personnel's struggle for a further rise in combat training and to provide a personal example in the accomplishment of socialist obligations. Eighty percent of the party members and candidate members pledge to become experts of combat and political training.

--All Komsomols and young servicemen are to embody in specific deeds the lines of the 19th Komsomol Congress and the Army-Wide Conference of Secretaries of Komsomol Organizations, participate actively in the All-Union Lenin Examination, "Implement the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress," and develop a movement under the slogan, "We bring fame to our crew through brotherhood and combat friendship." To see that all Komsomol members are examples in service.

--Each crew member pledges to have a careful attitude toward the people's and military property and to maintain service and living premises and the training-material base in an exemplary condition. By the end of 1985, to achieve a five-percent savings in fuel and save material and monetary resources worth a considerable sum.

--To participate actively in socio-political, mass-cultural, and sports work. To have permanently operating amateur arts activities on the ship. To struggle for high indices in sports and to train 85 percent rated sportsmen and 82 percents wearers of the VSK [military sports complex] badge by the end of the year.

We challenge to socialist competition the crew of the nuclear missile cruiser "Kirov" of the Red Banner Northern Fleet.

Combat friends! Our crew realizes clearly its responsibility for the honor to be the initiator of the competition in the Navy. We call upon the seamen to support our appeal and do everything for the accomplishment of the missions posed for the Armed Forces for the new training year by the Communist Party and the Soviet Minister of Defense.

6367

CSO: 1801/70

SPECIAL TROOPS

MAJ GEN SKLYAR ON THRIFT IN MANAGING SUPPORT SERVICES

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Dec 84 p 2

[Article by Maj Gen V. Sklyar, chief of finance service, Red Banner Central Asian Military District: "Money Loves an Account"]

[Text] Planning the financial activity for the coming year has been completed in the troops. It is precisely in such a period that I have often had the occasion to visit the motorized rifle regiment which was commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Ye. Vorob'yev who was recently promoted to a higher post. And I was always pleased by the fact that the officer organized this many-faceted work with great responsibility. Despite his usual burden with other matters, he always instructed his deputies and chiefs of services personally on the preparation of estimate calculations and checked the conformance of these documents to the plans for combat and political training, administrative activity, and others. All this permitted the regimental chief of finance service, Captain P. Razinov, to rely on data which were well adjusted, substantiated for all positions, and absorbed the actual requirements of the regiment.

And subsequently, too, as they say, the commander continued to keep his fingers on the financial pulse of the regiment. Not one account passed by, escaping him. Everything acquired was examined prior to entry as received at the warehouse by members of the internal inspection commission and only later was recorded in the accounting documents in their presence. Posts of the thrifty are functioning actively in the regiment. Following the commander's example, each serviceman strives to make his contribution to the preservation and correct use of the people's property.

Among the troops of our district there are many officers who are brilliant examples of a state approach to the use of finances and property for their subordinates. It is difficult to overestimate the indoctrinational significance of this example, and, after all, one can tell directly about how it affects the economy of the unit with figures in hand. For example, in the battalion where the deputy commander for technical matters is Captain N. Derevyankin, they make small parts for machines, shovel handles, and some tools from metal and wood waste products. In the regiment where the deputy commander for rear services is Major V. Fomin, waste products from clothing go to repair tents, and footwear and the manufacture of bed rugs and barracks slippers. In addition, in one of the regiments they began to make targets which were not all-plywood but by winding a frame with cheap cloth.... Clearly, each of these good deeds could

hardly be a subject for the immediate attention of the commander of the unit and subunit. But it is also clear that the initiative of subordinates is a reflection of the commander's work style and his attitude toward the economy and care of state resources.

I consider it necessary to speak so thoroughly about all this because in some places matters are not at all like this. For example, in the Nth Separate Airfield Technical Maintenance Battalion the chief of the finance service, Captain V. Kokushev, actually prepared the estimates of expenditures and distributed the funds received alone. Is it surprising that the inspection disclosed many violations of financial discipline here? In the UNR [work supervisor's section] which is led by Lieutenant Colonel G. Sivko, on the sector where 28 kilograms of wood screws were required they recorded more than two tons of them!

But all these, so to speak, are examples of the frank neglect of an important direction of their work by individual chiefs. Referring to other tasks the accomplishment of which takes away both personnel and time, the comrades simply let finance activity drift. Of course, such an approach is impermissible. But nevertheless, you encounter the fact more and more that leaders do not have sufficient management sharpness. Many of them are only worried that all sums which have been allotted are put to use. And, as they say, they don't have a headache over whether they are used efficiently.

In the Nth unit an unexpectedly high barley harvest was obtained from the kitchen farm. It would have been enough not only for immediate needs, but also could have been stored. But the responsible officials, including Major O. Grigor'yev, did not take the trouble to think of the future and generously got rid of the "surpluses." And when their own farm needed feed, they quietly turned to the unit's monetary fund. There is no denying that the money was spent for its designated purpose, but does this mean that obvious mismanagement was not committed? And what damage was inflicted on the indoctrination of the men?

A similar case of the thoughtless expenditure of state resources was disclosed in the unit where the chief of finance service is Captain V. Kushnir. Metal and glass were released for tables there which are usually made of plywood.

It is appropriate to note that in such situations commanders do not always listen to the opinion of the chiefs of finance service, and the latter display unjustified tractability. And so money leaves the regimental cashbox. In addition, in those places where clearly unnecessary expenditures are sanctioned it is difficult to expect a different attitude toward the state kopeck either and, all the more--from their initiative which is directed toward handling the funds which have been received in a businesslike matter.

By the way, yesterday's executors will themselves become chiefs tomorrow. Unfortunately, very many of them carry to higher posts the custom of not delving especially into administrative fine points. In investigating various errors of a commander or chief, I often noted that a scornful attitude toward accounting for material valuables and monitoring their use, and at times an elementary inability to draw up a financial document was inherent in people back in their lieutenant years. And no one made them responsible for this in time and no one taught them.

Now specific measures are being adopted in our district to avoid such errors. More attention has begun to be devoted to the administrative training of company and platoon commanders. After the appointment of an officer to the post of commander of a unit or separate subunit, the corresponding lessons with him are organized. As regards the finance service, each of the officers working in it must become familiar with the guidance documents and receives information on the most typical difficulties and errors. And, of course, we are discussing not only seeing that the established rules are observed unconditionally, but also seeing that a person shows up in his new post as a zealous master of the resources entrusted to him.

I again return with my thoughts to the regiment which was commanded until recently by Lieutenant Colonel Ye. Vorob'yev. There the kitchen farm is run efficiently and construction materials are used most effectively. And a Komsomol meeting is recalled which took place not without the prompting of Yevgeniy Nikolayevich in connection with the fact that the overconsumption of cement was permitted in one of the subunits during the repair of the barracks. The Saturday of free labor on the kitchen farm for the laying-in of fodder which was also organized on the initiative of the commander is recalled. I am confident that the efforts of the officer-leader resulted not only in a good economic impact, but in good shoots in the souls of the people.

"To be a zealous master and struggle for the attainment of the greatest savings--this is the primary task," said the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Comrade K. U. Chernenko, in his speech at a session of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee. It is the duty of each commander and chief to conduct this party line in his practical work. The competent expenditure of the resources which are present in the unit, their expenditure with maximum impact, and seeing that all servicemen are standing guard over the people's property depend on it.

6367

CSO: 1801/84

DOSAAF

RAID ON DOSAAF AUTO SCHOOL FINDS UNFINISHED CONSTRUCTION

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 20 Dec 84 p 3

[Article by Yu. Timofeyev, deputy chairman of People's Control Group, Podol'sk Auto School, DOSAAF, V. Yastrebov, chairman of trade union committee, and V. Sorokin: "Attention to the Construction Site"]

[Text] The buildings of the Podol'sk DOSAAF auto school became antiquated.

The classrooms are small and it is impossible to place or hang all the training aids on the stands. It is difficult to work under such cramped conditions. The school has an urgent need for new premises. Two garages, a training building, and other installations of the defense society are being constructed alongside the old training buildings or, to state it better, the barracks which are scheduled for demolition. It would seem that the acute shortage of instructional space would soon be eliminated. However, perhaps it is hasty to state this.

Judge for yourself. Seven years ago the customer, in the role of which the auto school steps forth, turned over to the "Mosoblstroy" [Moscow Oblast Construction Trust] No 10 all technical documentation which had been coordinated with interested organizations. According to the standards of Gosstroy [State Committee for Construction Affairs] an object with an estimated cost of more than a million rubles should be erected in three years; meanwhile, it has been under construction for six years already and the end is not yet in sight.

Initially, the work was conducted by SMU [construction and installation administration]-2, then SMU-1, and finally the object was transferred to mobile mechanized column No 30. All this was done, it should be assumed, based on the desire to improve matters on the construction site. But you see, it is not for nothing that they say: "Too many cooks spoil the broth." So it is here. There were too many cooks, that is to say, too many executors. And the value from this is low.

This is also shown by figures for construction installation. In 1980 with a plan for 200,000 rubles only 50,000 were utilized. This year, of 400,000 rubles thus far only 120,000 have been utilized. And you see, January is not far off. It is possible to perform work worth almost 300,000 rubles in half a month? Of course not.

We conducted the raid at the beginning of December. On the site where the training building was being built we saw only the foundation and the laying of the wall of the LPZ [expansion unknown] classroom. Not a soul around. It was only in the small van that we caught sight of Yu. Karpeyev, the temporary acting foreman since the foreman, V. Volchkov, who is managing the construction project was on leave. Also sitting behind the table were machine operator S. Mazurin --in case some load is delivered, and driver P. Lobanov who had arrived from another object for electrodes.

"Where are the other builders?" we asked Karpeyev.

"They have been transferred to another object."

"Why?"

"Because work on the training building has been stopped for now."

"And what is the matter?" we try to find out.

"We do not have the right to put the crane into operation."

We began to check and the following was learned. The tower crane was installed a month ago and, perhaps, even more. The representatives of the State Committee of the Council of Ministers for Supervision of Industrial Safety and for Mining Inspection prohibited its use until proper order is brought about on the site. It was prescribed, in particular that the underground portion be fenced, that materials and structural elements be properly stored, and that a check be made to see if the electric leader cables are well insulated. There were also other remarks. But were they all implemented? No. In places the brick was piled up in disorder as formerly, the basement was not completely fenced, and the workers were not provided with the necessary protective helmets.

Taking part in the raid with us were the Deputy Chairman of the Moscow Oblast DOSAAF Committee, N. Kolesov, and the chief of the Podol'sk auto school, B. Kondarev. Both visit the site quite often, are interested in how things are going, and strive to see that the construction job receives materials and technical documentation in good time.

However, it would also be good if the customer were more persistent and did not put up with the fact that as yet the builders promise much but do little. It is necessary to remind them of times a little more often and to demand that they not be disrupted.

At the beginning of November the manager of the trust "Mosoblstroy" No 10, A. Kovalenko, conducted a conference at the construction site with the brigade leaders of the PMK's [mobile mechanized column] whose collectives are erecting not only this object, but also others located in various regions of the city. B. Kondarev turned to A. Kovalenko with the request to speed up work on the DOSAAF construction site. Having listened to the chief of the school, the manager of the trust instructed the chief of PMK-30, V. Kolymagin, to prepare a work production schedule in such a way as to complete the year successfully. We asked B. Kondarev to show us this document.

"I don't have it."

"Then where is it, do the builders have it?"

"No, I didn't see the builders with it."

Nor could Yu. Karpeyev say anything clear in this regard. Most likely, no schedule for the completion of annual work was prepared.

And if there is no schedule, then people can be removed from the construction site. But you see, there is more than enough work at the construction site. For example, two garages have been erected here--for 30 vehicles and for 10. The walls have been constructed and the roof has been made. A room has been attached to the large garage where it is planned to locate the LPZ classrooms to train drivers for the national economy. But for the present the frames, windows, and doors have not been inserted. The heating and other pipes have not been installed and the electrical wiring has not been laid. There is also much finishing work to be done.

A tower crane is not needed to accomplish all this. This is what these two objects would suggest to the contractor. Why is it all "peace and harmony" at them?

Inside--mountains of bricks helter-skelter. Drafts are making merry. Evidently these garages will not be turned over soon either: the volume of unperformed work is still very great.

And here is the future transformer substation. For the present it is a small wide-open structure. The equipment is stored under the open sky and they did not make a storehouse for it.

Tremendous reels of electrical cable are alongside the transformer equipment. It should have been beneath the ground long ago. Nor has the rain drainage been completed; it remained to lay very few asbestos cement pipes. However, there was no time for it. Work was completed on only one object--the fire reservoir.

Each morning, the department's "Icarus" departs from the city motion picture theater, the "Rodina." It delivers the builders to the construction sites of Podol'sk. There are 5-10 people, no less, in the car at the beginning of the trip. The bus stops from time to time. At some places 7 get off, at others 10. And only at the DOSAAF auto school--five people in the best case. And sometimes no one at all.

It is planned to utilize 400,000 rubles for next year. However, the contractor insisted that the task be cut in half, justifying this by the fact that the mobile mechanized column will not cope with such a volume: there are, he says, other clients.

Serpukhov is travelling the same road as Podol'sk. There it was intended to construct buildings for an auto school. The customer petitioned for a long time for a lot to be allotted and coordinated the plan with interested organizations.

Last autumn, one of the members of the raid brigade attended a session of the ispolkom of the City Soviet of People's Deputies and proposed beginning the construction of objects in the near future. However, work worth only 40,000 rubles has been accomplished this year. Trust "Mosoblstroy" No 10 (manager, G. Trostentsov) considered it possible not to include the Serpukhov DOSAAF object in the plan for next year--we can wait a little, he says. But you see, the school's buildings are old. The members of the raid brigade were convinced of this. True, the walls and ceiling have now been reinforced and the immediate danger has been eliminated. But for how long?

The construction site in Serpukhov is not a start-up site. But even now the customer should be alarmed to the utmost and should struggle with all his strength against what is called above-normal uncompleted construction.

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CSO: 1801/99

FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS

U.S. TILT-ROTOR XV-15 AIRCRAFT DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Nov 84 p 3

[Article by Candidate of Technical Sciences, Col N. Ivanov: "The Convertiplane: Helicopter and Airplane"]

[Text] The idea of developing an aircraft which combines the qualities of a helicopter and an airplane is not a new one. Such a design has been demonstrated at the international air exhibits and, as the foreign press has announced, has attracted the attention of military specialists.

One of them which has been built by the American Bell firm upon an order from the U.S. Defense Department and NASA has been called the XV-15 convertiplane [tilt-rotor]. On the tips of the wing of this device are rotating pods with engines and triple-blade rotor-props. It can rise vertically like a helicopter and then turn the pods in the air in the direction of flight and become an airplane. As the journal PROCEEDINGS has announced, in terms of speed, range and economy of flight, the tilt-rotor XV-15 is significantly superior to a conventional modern helicopter.

What are the basic characteristics of this aircraft? The maximum lift-off weight is 5.9 tons, the two engines of 1,800 hp make it possible for the XV-15 to rise to an altitude of 9 km. It takes 12 seconds to turn the pods. With the failure of one engine both propellers are powered by the other and in the event of the failing of both engines, the tilt-rotor plane can make a glide landing like an airplane or land in a windmilling mode. During the flight testing of the XV-15, a speed of horizontal flight of 550 km per hour was achieved at an altitude of 5 km.

The U.S. Navy at the end of 1982 tested the XV-15 on the helicopter landing vessel "Tripoli." In the course of the trials, the tilt-rotor made 54 take-offs and landings with different wind speeds and directions. For determining the stability of flight of the XV-15 in those instances when one of its props was over the deck and the other beyond it, flights were made at an angle to the ship's longitudinal axis at altitudes of 10, 6 and 4.5 m above the deck. The effect of the wash from the XV-15 props on the deck crew was approximately the same as from the propellers of regular helicopters. Testing in a short take-off mode, the journal ARMY RESEARCH pointed out, was carried out in increasing the payload of the XV-15 by 450 kg. In deflecting the prop axes from

the vertical by 15° forward, the tilt-rotor took off after a run on the deck not exceeding 30 m. In a "folded" state, it can be stored compactly on the deck.

Specialists from the U.S. Army have also shown definite interest in the XV-15. As was announced by the journal AVIATION WEEK AND SPACE TECHNOLOGY, the American military department has formulated the tactical and technical specifications for such an aircraft. One of these being developed under the JVX program should have a flight speed of 465 km per hour and a maximum speed of 555 km per hour, a ceiling of 12 km, a take-off weight of not more than 18 tons, a payload of 4.5 tons and a flight range without refueling of 3,700 km. It has been particularly emphasized that the multipurpose tilt-rotor should make an extended flight with a full load on one engine at an altitude of at least 1.5 km and have missile-cannon weapons.

The designing of this convertiplane has been assigned to the Boeing Vertol and Bell firms which have experience in building large-capacity helicopters. The firms have established a joint design bureau which has around 100 engineers. Some 35 million dollars have been allocated for the stage of the preliminary designing of the tilt-rotor and this money will go primarily for developing the prop-rotor (its diameter will be 11.6 m instead of 7.6 m in the XV-15) and conducting trials in a wind tunnel.

The next stage which envisages the full-scale development of the tilt-rotor, building and testing of eight prototypes is planned for 5 years and will require 2 billion dollars. As was announced by the journal NATO'S SIXTEEN NATIONS, flight testing of the first prototypes is planned for 1987 and the production of series airplanes has been planned for 1991. In their building they plan to widely employ composition materials (including the prop blades) and protective (self-sealing) fuel tanks which for increasing fire safety will be enclosed in honeycomb panels filled with fire-extinguishing powder.

According to the announcement in the journal INTERNATIONAL DEFENSE REVIEW, the prototypes and the first batch of the serially-produced JVX tilt-rotors will have two T64 engines produced by General Electric and these subsequently will be replaced by the new MTE turboprop engine with a power of 5,700 hp (its development should be completed by 1986).

The Pentagon plans to purchase over 600 JVX tilt-rotors for a total of 24.7 billion dollars, with 552 of them (including 290 combat) designed for the Marines, the shock detachment of American imperialism. The JVX will replace the presently used CH-46 and CH-53 troop-carrier helicopters. As has been pointed out by foreign reviewers, the use of the tilt-rotor can increase the efficiency of aviation also in antisubmarine operations. It is felt that the folding prop blades and the rotating wings of the aircraft will make it possible to locate them more compactly on ships.

In addition to the JVX, the Bell firm is designing for the U.S. Army two other light tilt-rotor planes (the LHX Program). There is the single-seat antitank version with a take-off weight of approximately 4 tons, a maximum speed of 555 km per hour and the following weapons: 8 air-to-ground missiles and 4 air-to-air ones. It can also be used for conducting reconnaissance. There is also the

transport version with a take-off weight of 4.55 tons, a capacity with the pilot of 7 persons, and a flight without refueling (at a cruising speed of 400 km per hour) of 3,900 km. Both tilt-rotors will have the same engines with a power of 850-1,000 hp each, a rotor system and a transmission. According to the LHX Program for the U.S. Army, there are plans to purchase around 6,500 such light aircraft and series production of them can be started in the first half of the 1990's. Also participating in the competition for this order will be the firms Hughes, Sikorsky Aircraft and Boeing Vertol.

As the foreign press has pointed out, after the Anglo-Argentine military conflict, British specialists have shown increased attention to the tilt-rotor and they feel that such an aircraft will be more suitable than a helicopter for deploying early radar detection equipment for enemy air targets and ships.

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CSO: 1801/53

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